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Mary Doherty, accompanied by her daughters Emma and Amanda, walks past graffiti reading 'Peace' in a Catholic neighborhood of Belfast yesterday. (AP)

N. Ireland's largest party backs accord

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK

BELFAST (AP) — The executive committee of Northern Ireland's biggest party voted yesterday to back the historic peace deal signed in Friday in Belfast that aims to end 30 years of violence — a victory for Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble.

Facing rebels in his ranks, Trimble appealed to his pro-British Protestant followers during an acrimonious five-hour meeting to accept the compromise peace accord. He said he was delighted by their support.

Opponents argued that the agreement was a sell-out to the Irish Republican Army.

But the party's 110-member executive committee voted 55-23 to back the peace deal. It will now be considered by the party's full council at a meeting in Belfast next Saturday, but Trimble said he does not expect a reversal.

"When people sit down and analyze this document, I believe the result will be even stronger in our favor," he said.

Trimble said he understood the

deep reservations, which he also shared. But he said: "The people calling me a traitor are only a small group who have over the last number of years called everybody

The fight goes on, Page 5

in this party names."

William Thompson, an Ulster Unionist lawmaker who vowed to vote "no" when the accord is subjected to a referendum May 22 in Northern Ireland, said the campaign to scrap the agreement would not end with Saturday's vote.

"We will continue to fight it all the way. Mr. Trimble may claim this to be a victory, but it's anything but," he said.

Trimble — whose pro-British Protestant party opposes Irish unity and is central to making the agreement work — went to the Ulster Unionists' downtown Belfast headquarters early yesterday to sell the settlement.

It was the first of many expected challenges to the historic accord.

While Northern Ireland would remain part of the United Kingdom with a new assembly, the Protestants and Catholics in this new administration would be required to forge formal links with the rest of Ireland, too.

The Belfast talks chairman, former US Senate majority leader George Mitchell, won acceptance Friday from all eight participating parties after 22 months of negotiations.

But half of the Ulster Unionists' 10 members in the British Parliament have criticized or condemned outright key aspects of the compromise: early releases for Irish Republican Army prisoners; a role for the IRA-allied Sinn Féin Party in the new Assembly; and requirements that this new administration cooperate in a North-South Ministerial Council with the Irish Republic.

"Trimble has conceded on almost every point he said he would stand on," said Thompson. A veteran Unionist lawmaker, William Ross, said the accord was

not "a peace deal" but rather "a full-blown surrender to IRA demands."

Northern Ireland's only previous attempt to forge compromise was destroyed in 1974 by an Ulster Unionist split and a widespread Protestant strike.

See ACCORD, Page 6

Arafat briefed on arrest of key Hamas suspect

PA: Awadallah
confessed to
killing SharifBy MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
and MOHAMMED NABE

Palestinian General Intelligence officials arrested Imad Awadallah, a Hamas fugitive, in Ramallah yesterday morning and said he had confessed to killing Hamas bombmaker Muhi Sharif two weeks ago.

The head of Palestinian General Intelligence, Brig.-Gen. Tawfik Tirawi, went to Gaza last night to report to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on the findings of the preliminary investigation of Awadallah.

PA Secretary-General Tayib Abdel Rahim, who is in charge of the PA investigation, said Awadallah had confessed to killing Sharif and blowing up his car to cover up the cause of death.

Hamas continued to deny any involvement in Sharif's death and said it would avenge the killing.

Rahim said the case would be transferred to justice officials,

stressing that Sharif's assassination was not an internal Hamas matter, but affected the security and stability of Palestinian society, and the PA would not allow people to take the law into their own hands.

Rahim added that Hamas spokesman Abdul Aziz Rantisi was arrested in Gaza on Thursday because he had violated a signed agreement with the PA not to carry out any media campaigns following Sharif's death.

The Palestinian Police continued its crackdown on the movement and reportedly arrested several top Hamas officials on Friday.

Rahim stressed that the PA has evidence that members of the Hamas leadership abroad supported the movement's media campaign against the PA.

Palestinian security officials said they have arrested some 60 Hamas activists since Sharif's death; Hamas said some 300 had been arrested. The officials said that the

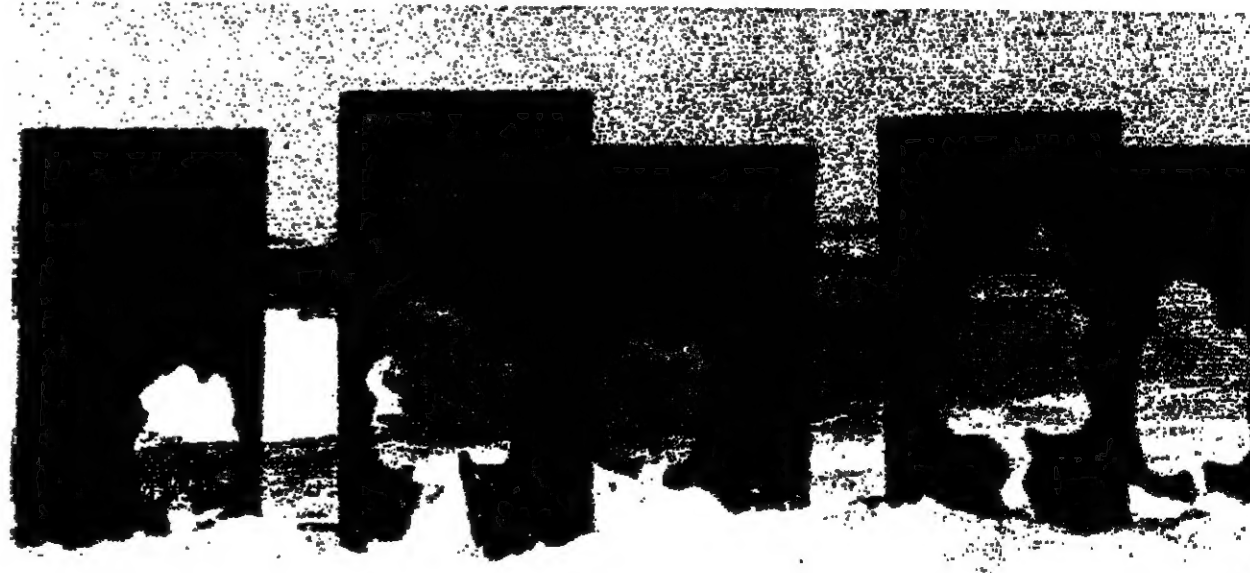
PA had asked Hamas leaders to participate in the investigation of Sharif's death and also meet with Hamas activists in custody.

The officials said the explosives used to blow up Sharif's car were the same kind used by Hamas and found in bomb factories discovered over the past months.

Palestinian security officials said they believe the Hamas's military wing, Izzadin Kassam, will try to attack Israeli targets. The officials said such attacks would only bolster Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's refusal to carry out further redeployment in the West Bank.

Security officials said the report in *The Jerusalem Post* last Sunday based on an interview with Rantisi, who hinted that the Palestinian Preventive Security Service was behind Sharif's death, forced the PA to go public with their information regarding an internal Hamas rivalry.

See HAMAS, Page 4

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MK Elul says Israel, US have
known of Iranian nukes for years

By STEVE RODAN

MK Rafi Elul (Labor), who relayed top-secret Iranian government documents on its nuclear program from an Iranian source to *The Jerusalem Post*, said last night Israel and the US have suspected for years that Tehran obtained nuclear weapons smuggled from the former Soviet Union.

"Both countries have known about this for several years," Elul told the *Post*. "I know there is concern, but I don't know if anything has been done."

Last month, Elul held three meetings in Washington with US and Iranian sources and received Iranian documents — later obtained

by the *Post* — that report the arrival of two nuclear weapons from the former Soviet Union in 1992.

The documents said the weapons are being maintained and made operational by Russian and Argentinean technicians.

US and Israeli government spokespeople said over the weekend they don't have evidence that Iran has nuclear weapons, although they are concerned by Tehran's efforts to achieve such capability.

US government sources have told the *Post* they believe the documents are genuine, while Israeli officials said they are studying them.

"I have no way of knowing whether the documents are

authentic," Elul said. "But since I gave them to the government, nobody has told me that there is something wrong with them."

Elul said that in 1995 then-prime minister Shimon Peres expressed concern over Iran's ambitions to become a nuclear power. The statement, the Labor MK said, was connected to what Elul believed was new information about Iran's progress in its nuclear program.

In March, Elul met with a US source who said that in 1995 she gave Iranian government documents to both the CIA and Israel that report on Tehran's successful efforts to obtain nuclear weapons.

See NUKES, Page 2

Rabinovich: Labor never
committed to Golan pullout

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The Labor government never made a commitment to withdraw from the Golan Heights, Itamar

Rabinovich, Israel's former ambassador to the US, said yesterday, dismissing Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlass's reported claim that the Damascus regime has a letter from US President Bill Clinton to this effect.

In an interview published Friday by the London-based daily *Al Quds al Arabi*, Tlass was quoted as saying that Clinton had written a letter saying saying prime minister Yitzhak Rabin had agreed to an IDF withdrawal to the June 4, 1967, armistice line.

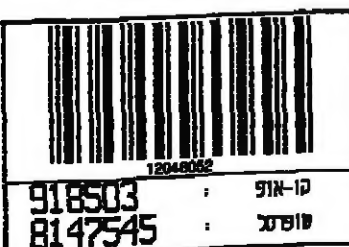
Clinton's letter is in Syrian

President Hafez Assad's possession, Tlass said, and will be publicized in due course.

"The letter is in the presidential palace in Damascus and I do not know when President Assad will allow it to be made public. He will decide about that at the appropriate time," Tlass said.

"There was no Israeli commitment to withdraw," Rabinovich said. "Withdrawal was discussed hypothetically, but there was no commitment and no agreement."

See GOLAN, Page 4



هكذا من الأصل

NEWS

in brief

Netanyahu welcomes N. Ireland peace deal

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last night welcomed the agreement reached over Northern Ireland. "We welcome any agreement which all parties agree to," he said.

A government source said, meanwhile, the fact that British Prime Minister Tony Blair coordinated his role in the Ireland negotiations with US President Bill Clinton is likely to signal cooperation between the two leaders on the Middle East peace process.

The source expected Blair to seek an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians on the launching of the Karni industrial park on the eastern edge of the Gaza Strip, as well as the opening of the Palestinian airport at Dahaniya at the strip's southern end.

Jay Bushinsky

Blair to launch British-Israel youth exchange

British Prime Minister Tony Blair will launch a British-Israel youth-exchange program when he visits here next week to mark the 50th anniversary of the state. The program is the initiative of the United Jewish Israel Appeal (UJIA), Britain's major fund-raising organization for Israel, and grants will be known as UJIA-Blair Fellowships.

Under the plan, British youth will travel here to assist immigrants and receive leadership training while working in volunteer programs in the North. It will also bring Israeli youth to Britain, where they will be hosted by the Jewish community and participate in youth movement activities.

Douglas Davis

Hot weather drives nation to the shore

The hot weather drove thousands of people to seek respite on the beach yesterday, as the nation celebrated the first day of Pessah.

Firefighters urged the public to avoid lighting any fires in fields for fear that any blaze could quickly get out of control because of the high temperatures and dry conditions.

People flocking to the North in search of cooler air were surprised to learn that it was hot there, too, and the shores of the Kinneret and the Jordan River were full of people. Mt. Hermon, where there is still some snow, was a popular site.

The Meteorological Service said that the heat wave is expected to last through Wednesday, with temperatures today to reach a high of 40 degrees in Tel Aviv and other areas along the coast.

Itim

Knife-wielding youths steal woman's car

A woman driving in Wadi Ara on Friday afternoon was thrown out of her car at knifepoint and her car stolen.

The woman stopped when the road was blocked by two youths. The youths then forced her out of her car at knifepoint, and drove off with the car in the direction of the Palestinian-controlled areas.

Police searched for the car, but found nothing. The woman was unhurt.

Itim

Bikur Holim opens matza hot line

Starting today, people who have trouble digesting matza will be able to call in for advice from dieticians at Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital. Chief dietician Marlene Alafi said some people suffer serious constipation from a Pessah diet of matzo, because matzo is poor in natural fibers and very dry.

Advice can be heard by calling 050-762-964 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. during the intermediate days.

Judy Siegel

Policeman gets suspended sentence for brutality

Ch.-Supt. Efi Havivian, the commander of Jerusalem's special patrol squad, was given a four-month suspended sentence and fined NIS 5,000 by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Friday after being convicted of beating protesters while breaking up a right-wing demonstration at the Russian Compound in 1995. Two women were injured.

The judge said it was clear that Havivian was exhausted at the time, and this led him to lose control and use force when it should have been clear that "force must be used only when there is no other alternative." Havivian's lawyer said he would appeal.

Itim

We regret to announce the death of MEYER SHAPIRO

Deeply mourned by:
His wife Hanna Shapiro
His children and grandchildren
Yigal, Galla, Michal and Yuval Shapiro
Tamar, Dr. Ariele, Ben, Adi and Ron Raziel
Naomi, Gal, Kachal and Kili Yarden
His sisters: Hannah Weintraub and Family
Asna Thorpe and Family

He has donated his body to science.

Condolence visits: Rehov Tzahal 98, Tzahala.

With great sorrow we announce the passing in old age of my mother and our beloved grandmother

ANKA (Hana) BARUCH
(Née Gruner)

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, April 12, 1998 (16 Nisan 5758), at 5:30 p.m., at the Kfar Shmaryahu Cemetery.

Mourned by: Gila and Alex Emodi
Guy and Tali Emodi
Dan Emodi
Amit and Eran Baruch

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our members

BETTY AND AHARON ELYON

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, April 12, 1998 (16 Nisan 5758), at 4 p.m., at the cemetery of Kibbutz Geshar Haziv

Beit Geshar Haziv

By LISA PALMIERI-BILLIG

ROME - During his traditional Good Friday "Via Crucis" procession from the Colosseum to the Roman Forum, Pope John Paul II made the unprecedented statement that the Jewish people "has been crucified by us for too long" and that not the Jews, "not they, but we, each and every one of us" are responsible for Christ's crucifixion, "because we are all murderers of love."

"Contemplating Christ who died on the Cross," continued the pope, "our thoughts go to the manifold injustice and suffering

that prolong his passion in every part of the earth." This theme recurred during the day. Another priest, Father Cantalamessa, speaking to the pope and the entire Roman Curia, cited the Church fathers of the second century who "sowed the seeds" of anti-Semitism and "indirectly favored the Shoah."

He said, however, that "antisemitism is born not of fidelity to the Scriptures but of infidelity to them." This was the first time such strong statements clearing Jews from "guilt" for Christ's death (an accusation often taught in pre-Vatican II Catholic the-

ology) were made on Good Friday, and moreover by the highest authority of the Catholic Church.

A landmark 1965 Vatican document said Jews should not be held collectively responsible. The concept of universal guilt by sinners of all times for Christ's suffering was already contained in the "Roman Catechism" of the Council of Trent, but it was never applied to Easter sermons. The pope's words were written by French Orthodox theologian Olivier Clement, at the pope's request for a reflection related to the Church's past errors and Christian sins

throughout history. This is part of the "purification process" leading to the Jubilee Year, of which the recent Vatican document, "We Remember: Reflections on the Shoah," is part.

Good Friday has traditionally been a time of fear for Jews, when anti-Jewish sermons incited crowds to hatred and often violence against Jews. Pope John XXIII was the first to lead Catholics toward a new theology regarding Jews, when he removed the words, "perfidious Jews" from Good Friday sermons. Now a further, perhaps definitive step has been made.

Victim of Karmiel shooting dies of wounds

Police were hunting last night for a Jerusalem security guard who yesterday shot his ex-wife and her parents, fatally wounding his father-in-law, during an argument over visitation rights over the former couple's four-year-old daughter. Last night Israel Radio identified the suspect as Shlomo Levine.

Levine, 32, arrived in the afternoon at his former wife's home in Karmiel, armed with the licensed semi-automatic pistol he carries as part of his work for a security firm. Police said an argument broke out when Levine insisted on spending time alone with his daughter and her mother objected.

At this point, investigators said, Levine drew his pistol and fired the entire magazine into the three adults. He then fled in his car.

Nahariya Government Hospital deputy-director Dr. Moshe Daniel said the father-in-law, Lazar Mamerstein, 66, died last night on the operating table from bullet wounds in the chest and abdomen. His wife, 62, was listed in serious condition with wounds in the chest and legs. Their daughter, 29, although hit by seven bullets in the chest and torso, was in satisfactory condition.

Karmiel police chief Dep.-Cmdr. Baruch Drimer said Levine and his family immigrated from the CIS and settled in the town about six years ago. Following the couple's divorce some three years ago, Levine moved to Jerusalem, where he found work with a security company.

(Itim)

2 die in accidents

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A two-year old boy, Mazen Abu Ahmed from Kfar Kama, was killed on Friday morning in a traffic accident at the Beit Rimon intersection in the North. His parents were seriously wounded and four of his siblings suffered light-to-moderate injuries.

The accident occurred when a car swerved into the opposite lane and hit an oncoming vehicle. Five people were seriously injured in another traffic accident yesterday morning in Rishon LeZion.

In other weekend fatalities, the body of a 20-year-old Umm el-Fahm resident who drowned in Lake Kinneret on Thursday was found on Friday morning.

The youth had entered the water at a beach without a lifeguard near Moshava Kinneret on Thursday afternoon. A friend said he saw the youth try to hold on to the buoy marking the end of the swimming area some 300 meters from shore but then he disappeared. In another apparent drowning, a 15-year-old disappeared in a pond near the Nesher factory in Beit Shemesh.



Hamas rally for revenge

Thousands of Palestinians cheer as a model bus and flags were set on fire at a Hamas rally in Nablus yesterday calling for revenge against Israel for the death of master bombmaker Muhi Sharif.

(AP)

'Leviatan' crew graduates but sub delayed

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The first class of navy cadets trained to serve on the new Dolphin-class submarines graduated last week, but will have to wait until next year to start their duty on the vessels, since they are still not finished being built in Germany.

The first \$150 million Dolphin, the Leviatan, is undergoing final fitting out and is expected to be delivered by January, Army Radio said. Since the crew could not train on the vessel here, they were sent to Germany for the final part of their 15-month training course, the radio said.

"We learned the submarine without a sub really," cadet Amir Ackerman told Army Radio. "But three months ago we flew to Germany to see the submarine and learn all the things we studied in class and implement

what we learned."

The new Dolphin crew, like all those graduating from the grueling submarine training course, must sign on for 18 months' extra service. "It's not an easy course. But it can be passed if you really want to," cadet Tzachi Bachenheimer said.

The navy is waiting anxiously for the delivery of the diesel-electric submarine. It has already completed new deep-water wharves at its base in Haifa where the three Dolphins are to be harbored. The Leviatan was originally expected to arrive by Independence Day, but Army Radio said that, due to delays, the first Dolphin is not expected to arrive before January 1999.

The state-of-the-art Leviatan is being built according to Israeli specifications by Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft (HDW) in Kiel, Germany. It is the first of three Dolphin-

class subs being built and financed by Germany. The second was put to water last summer and the third is still under construction.

According to Jane's Fighting Ships, the Dolphins can launch swimmer delivery vehicles carrying eight frogmen, which can reach shore undetected. Also, the vessels have "wet and dry" pumping compartments below their conning towers, from which up to eight frogmen can be launched at once on missions closer to the sub, the British defense journal said.

The submarines have "considerable command capability," as they allow swimmers to reach the shore undetected, the journal said. The Leviatan is also equipped with advanced sonar, command, and weapons control systems built by the German defense company STN Atlas Elektronik.

PA slams senators for siding with anti-peace camp

The Palestinian Authority sent letters yesterday to 81 senators who have urged US President Bill Clinton not to put public pressure on Israel regarding peace moves, a top Palestinian negotiator said.

The Palestinian Authority calls on the senators to support those who back peace, because siding with [Prime Minister] Netanyahu, no matter what the excuse is, is siding with the anti-peace camp," Saeb Erekat said. "We hope that senators will not fall for the false campaigns that are led by Netanyahu's supporters in Washington."

A letter to Clinton earlier this month, signed by 81 Republicans and Democrats, expressed concern at reports that a disagreement between the US and Israel might result in the US presenting a peace plan opposed by Israel.

"American senators know who is impeding peace and who is trying to achieve peace with security for all the peoples in the region," said David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's communications director.

The senators had said they feared the US plan might include a further withdrawal of IDF troops from the West Bank beyond what Israel believes would be in its security interests. Though Palestinians expressed dissatisfaction over the reported scope of the withdrawal, they accepted the American proposal.

The senators who signed the letter to Clinton included Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms (Rep., North Carolina), and Majority Leader Trent Lott (Rep., Mississippi). Senators Joe Lieberman (Dem., Connecticut) and Connie Mack (Rep., Florida), drafted the letter.

(Reuters)

NUKES

Continued from Page 1

The source, whom he would not identify but asserted has longtime connections to the Israeli leadership, said she had not gotten any response from either government and was concerned that the information was being ignored in policy decisions.

The US source then introduced Elul to a senior Iranian exile who obtained the documents but was hesitant to speak about them.

"I didn't like that attitude," Elul recalled, "and I left the meeting quite offended. The next day, the Iranian called back and said, 'Why don't you come to my house and we'll discuss it.'"

Elul and the Iranian met and the Labor MK received the documents, as well as the history of Tehran's nuclear program. He immediately relayed the material to the Israeli government but said he did not receive a response.

"I waited 10 days and nobody said anything to me," Elul

recalled. "I began to think we were talking about some conception regarding Iran that nobody was interested in changing. That's when I realized that people have to know about this."

Elul said he was told by his American interlocutors that the Pentagon has long known that two nuclear bombs have been missing from the former Soviet Union and are believed now to be in Iran.

US officials from the Pentagon and State Department on Thursday said they investigated such reports in 1992 and found no such evidence.

A congressional source who deals with the Iranian issue, however, said US policy has been to provide little information regarding Tehran's nuclear program.

"Acknowledging that the US suspects that Iran has nuclear weapons would mean that Washington would have to do something about it," the source said. "At this point, the administration really does not know what to do."



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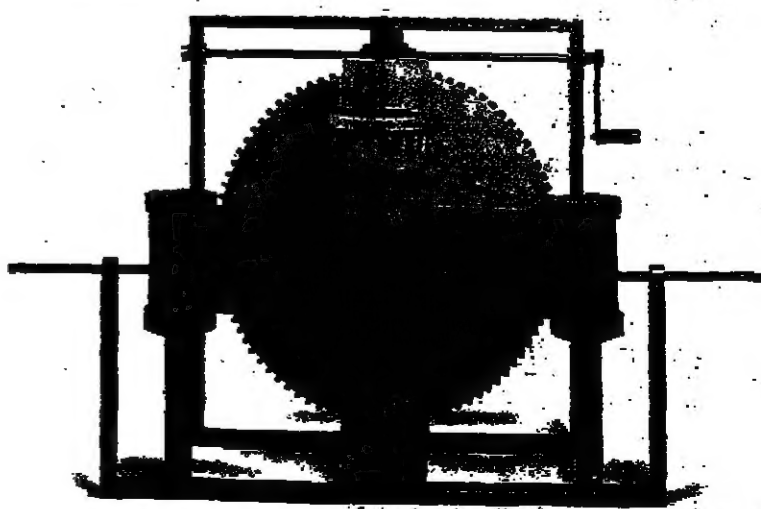
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Croatia seeks extradition of WWII officer Sakic from Argentina

By JAY BUSHINSKY
and news agencies

Croatia wants to have a World War II concentration camp commander extradited from Argentina and put on trial.

Croatian Justice Minister Miroslav Separovic said Friday that he has started legal and diplomatic procedures to return Dinko Sakic for trial. Argentinean President Carlos Menem, who on Thursday ordered police to detain Sakic, has indicated he would not oppose his return to Croatia.

The Croatian ambassador to Israel, Svezjan Berkovic, told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that his government hasn't received official confirmation from Buenos Aires that Sakic has been taken into custody.

Sakic, 76, was an army captain

at Jasenovac concentration camp, some 35 kilometers southeast of Zagreb. Gypsies, Jews and insurgent Croats were killed at Jasenovac while Croatian dictator Ante Pavelic, a wartime ally of Nazi Germany, was in power.

There are no exact figures for the number of people killed at the camp. Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has said the number was 35,000. The US Justice Department has put it at 125,000, and camp survivors have said it was closer to 500,000.

In a television interview earlier this week in Buenos Aires, Sakic acknowledged that he was a commander at the camp, but claimed that "nothing happened in Jasenovac."

"It was a work camp where the Jews managed themselves. We never put a hand on any of the

prisoners in the camp. The people died of natural death," he said. "There was a typhus epidemic, for example, but there were no cremation ovens that killed anybody."

Until the interview, Sakic had lived undetected in Argentina since seeking refuge in 1947. He has since disappeared from his home in the Atlantic beach resort of Santa Teresita, 300 km. south-east of Buenos Aires.

Past governments in Argentina have sheltered Nazis fleeing Europe after the war.

B'nai B'rith and the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles have asked that Sakic be charged and tried.

Sakic's extradition and trial would likely be contentious in Croatia, where Jasenovac has remained a dark spot in the history of the fledgling country still struggling to come

to terms with its fascist legacy.

Tudjman has acknowledged "wrongdoings" of the Nazi puppet state that existed during the war and has apologized to Jews for their suffering.

Still, some Croats have fond memories of the war-time Croatian state, linking its brief independence from Yugoslavia to its successful 1991 independence war from the Balkan federation.

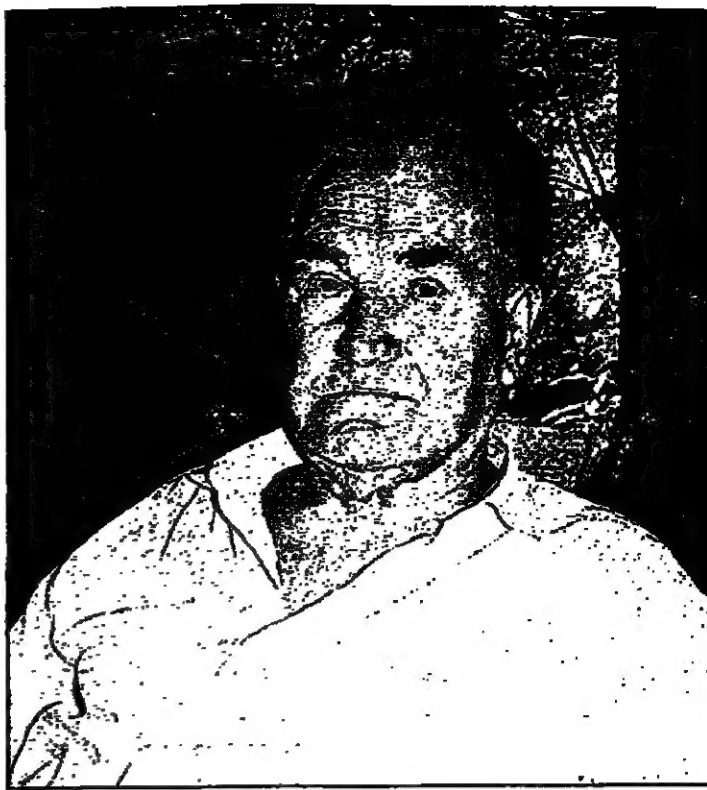
Tudjman has received sharp international condemnation for a proposal to rebury World War II casualties — victims as well as pro-Nazi fascists — together in Jasenovac in a gesture of national reconciliation. It is yet unclear whether Tudjman has given up the idea.

Before Croatia's decision on Sakic, the Simon Wiesenthal Center had sought Germany's help to convince Zagreb to have Sakic

extradited to stand trial in Zagreb for genocide. A letter to this effect was sent to German Ambassador Theodore Wallau. It followed an appeal for Sakic's extradition that was sent by the center's director, Efraim Zuroff, to Croatia's new envoy, Svezjan Berkovic.

Zuroff's initiative was taken immediately after Sakic's presence in Argentina was made public. In his letter, Zuroff said: "Croatia is among the few post-Communist countries which has never even acknowledged participation of its nationals in the crimes of the Holocaust, let alone attempted to prosecute Croatian Nazi war criminals."

"We therefore wish to enlist the assistance of your government, which is known for its good relations with Croatia and its influence on its leaders."



Dinko Sakic shown in his home in Santa Teresita, Argentina last week. (AP)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Never been better

The weekend papers were influenced by the spirit of Pessah and the state's jubilee and were filled with comprehensive summaries on changes, successes and failures in the political, economic and social realms.

Commentators in *Yediot Aharonot* and *Ma'ariv* focused on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's achievements and changes since he assumed office nearly two years ago.

"The recognition that we are not looking at a UFO that has arrived from nowhere and might disappear from our lives has sunk into the public consciousness," declares *Yediot's* Shimon Schiffer.

He adds that while during the first year everyone was trying to explain why Netanyahu was doomed to failure, this year everyone is trying to explain his success.

Schiffer states that Netanyahu is a "political Houdini."

Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev and Ben Caspit state that "after a long period where he seemed like a loser to the wide public, he is wearing the winner's robe once again, like he did in the summer of 1996."

They add that Netanyahu is viewed as a man who can overcome any situation, "something that is admired in Israel, both past and present."

Yediot's Bina Barzel writes that Netanyahu feels that this is one of his best political periods. She attributes the change to the improvement of relations within the coalition.

The replacement of Avigdor Lieberman by Moshe Leon as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office and the involvement of MKs and ministers in political issues has brought on the change, she writes.

Economic success

Yediot's Sever Plotzker claims that two years ago the economy was in a dangerous state while

peoples' personal economic situations were good. This has been reversed under Netanyahu's leadership, he says.

Plotzker says that Netanyahu's reforms were necessary and without them, "We would be lying in the same rehabilitation ward as the sickest economies of southeast Asia."

But the ways that Netanyahu chooses to achieve his goals are controversial, he writes, concluding that "Netanyahu has won, but his successes have the taste of failure."

'Ma Nishtana?'

Ma'ariv's Yosef Lapid claims that during Pessah, the holiday in which we celebrate our freedom, we are called to check our situation.

"We enjoy the freedom of speech; we are free to worship our God; we are free from want, but we are not free from fear," referring to the constant fear of wars or terrorist attacks.

"Actually, in the 50 years since the establishment of the state, we have not known a day without it... and so our mission now, on the Pessah before our 50th Independence Day, is to create a fearless world," he writes.

Ha'aretz's editorial states that because we are in the midst of a struggle to ensure the nation's security, "there is no better time than this holiday to be hopeful for a future redemption."

Ha'aretz's Gideon Samet addresses society's crumbling texture. He states that the Israeli identity has been blurred because the nation is losing a common denominator.

Samet criticizes holiday newspaper supplements that only present the country's beauty but fail to take a bold look into the life of the nation.

Yediot's Uri Orbach also addresses the ruptures within society, reflected by Labor MK Dalia Itzik's recent suggestion that the Labor Party celebrate the jubilee separately from the Likud.

"We might be consoled by the fact that she did not suggest to mark Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars separately," he writes.

Ha'aretz's Yair Sheleg supports the idea of a social melting pot.

"Whoever opposes the idea of a melting pot in the name of democracy and pluralism might find out that the values of democ-

racy may be destroyed," he states.

In addition, he warns against the possibility of every sector becoming sovereign.

In an interview conducted by *Ma'ariv's* Sima Kadmon, President Ezer Weizman concludes: "Over the last 50 years we have learned how not to die; now, after 50 years, we must learn how to live."

'Neo-Nazis to mark Bismarck death'

BONN (Reuters) — The German magazine *Der Spiegel* reported yesterday that neo-Nazi and other right-wing extremists are planning to stage rallies across Germany to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of the "Iron Chancellor," Otto von Bismarck.

Bismarck united the kingdoms of Prussia, Bavaria and Saxony with dozens of principalities in 1871 to create a German empire or "Reich" that was much bigger than today's unified Germany. Right-wingers hold Bismarck's memory dear because of this, and hanker after the provinces of East Prussia and Pomerania, in today's Poland and Russia, which were lost after World War II.

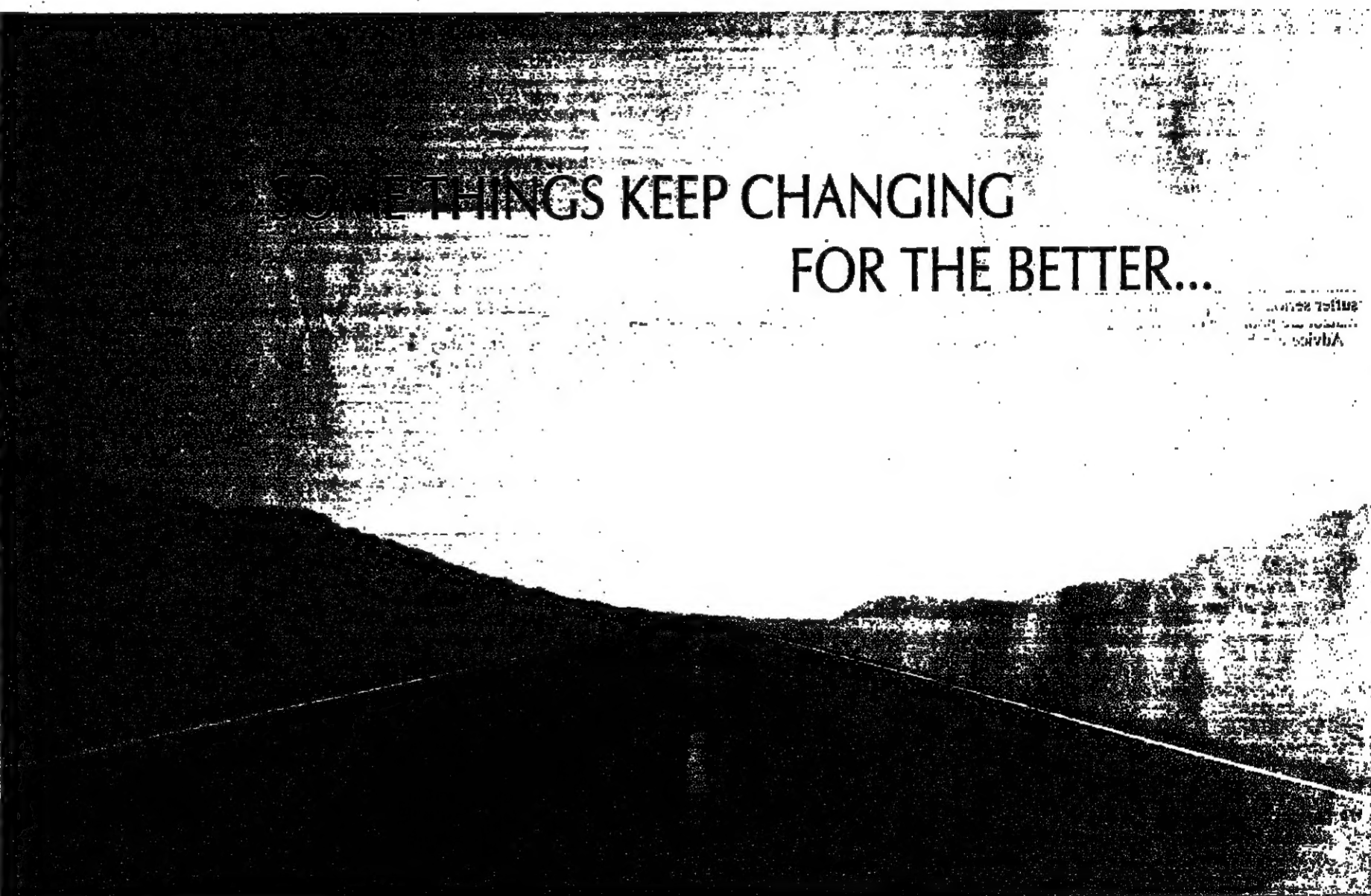
The marches for Bismarck would be inspired by

annual rallies across the country to mark the death of top Nazi Rudolf Hess in Berlin's Spandau Prison on August 17, 1987, *Spiegel* said.

The magazine said the groups would gather at Bismarck's grave in Friedrichsruh, outside Hamburg, on July 30 to commemorate his death in 1898.

Historians are divided over the extent to which Bismarck, Germany's first chancellor, contributed to the rise to power of Adolf Hitler's Nazi party.

After the horrors of the Holocaust and two world wars, many Germans tended to blame their "distorted" historical development partly on Bismarck's failure to establish democracy and on aggressive Prussian militarism.



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Seder far afield

Two youngsters take part in a seder Friday night at the Israeli Embassy in Katmandu, Nepal.

(AP)

HAMAS

Continued from Page 1

In Jericho, Preventive Security officials asked to hear the Post's recorded interview with Rantisi.

Hamas officials said apart from Rantisi, several other activists had been arrested, including Hamas leader Dr. Ibrahim Makadmeh, a dentist who is believed to have been involved in planning several terrorist attacks in Israel; Nezar Rayan dean of the Islamic University in Gaza; and Abdallah Shami, a senior Islamic Jihad activist.

Members of Sharif's family rejected claims that Awadallah or his brother were involved in the killing.

On Friday, the Palestinian Police shut down the Reuters office in Gaza after the agency had showed a videotape of Imad Awadallah's brother Awad, also a fugitive, who warned that Hamas "would bring sorrow into every Israeli home."

Awadallah also accused Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub of collaborating with Israel in Sharif's death. Palestinian Police commander Gen. Ghazi Jabali said the report was seditious, but that closure of

the Reuters office in Gaza for three months was a temporary measure.

Jabali said that such reports should be submitted to the censor before being published. Meanwhile, the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group objected to the fact that five Palestinian reporters who work for Reuters in Gaza were forced to sign statements committing themselves "to be precise in their work, determine the truth of the news and that it doesn't contradict the publication and printing material law issued by the PA."

In addition the statement said that the reporters would agree to go to the administration of the investigation department if summoned. The group said this was a serious attack on freedom of the press and interfered with the work of the Information Ministry.

Jay Bushinsky adds: Referring to the PA's closure of Reuters's Gaza office, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said "it is very much in character." Bar-Ilan said the PA "seems to be interested in proving that it has no desire to be a democracy."

GOLAN

Continued from Page 1

Rabinovich said he knows of several Syrian attempts to extract written confirmation of the hypothetical discussion, but when the issue was brought up at a meeting between Rabin and Clinton, "the prime minister was adamant in objecting to any written American position or any letter whatsoever."

The former envoy quoted Rabin as having said, "If the administration put anything on paper regarding his position on withdrawal or about the hypothetical discussion this would be the end of the negotiations."

He conceded that he cannot vouch for what may have happened in the past two years, since the end of his mission.

Rabinovich, a Tel Aviv University professor and a specialist in Syrian history and politics who once headed the negotiating team with Syria, said Tlass made "outrageous statements."

As an example, he cited Tlass's references to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as a Jew and a Zionist.

Tlass contended that US foreign policy had never fallen to such a low level as under Albright.

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Deal lauded worldwide, gets unionist support

By ELAINE MONAGHAN

BELFAST (Reuters) — The world applauded Northern Ireland's hard-won peace pact yesterday, but the man who brokered the deal warned tough times lay ahead.

"It's a significant accomplishment, but I don't think anyone should be under the illusion that the problems of Northern Ireland have been solved with this act. There's a long way to go," US talks chairman George Mitchell said hours after the historic pact was clinched.

Catholic and Protestant leaders from the divided province wrapped up marathon talks on Friday with a finely tuned document that preserves links with Britain while building closer ties with Ireland.

It signals the biggest change in Northern Ireland's political status since the island of Ireland was partitioned in 1921 and aims to end three decades of conflict that have claimed more than 3,200 lives.

The accord will have to pass a series of tests if it is to become reality, and it leapt the first hurdle yesterday by winning initial approval from the main pro-British party.

But David Trimble had to overcome resistance from about a third of his Ulster Unionist Party executive and two leading parliamentary members opposed him.

William Thompson was one of those who opposed the deal for fear it would weaken the union. He even speculated that Trimble's days as leader could be numbered. "We are like the scolded lady in the house. Trimble's position is becoming more and more untenable," he said.

But Trimble, who went through the accord line by line with his colleagues for four hours, won the argument.

"We have moved forward with some optimism... We will continue to work together," Trimble told reporters. He said the deal would now have to be approved by about 700 delegates expected to attend a UUP council meeting on April 18.

Trimble and his deputy John Taylor dismissed the fury of extreme pro-British "loyalists" who picketed the party's headquarters with British flags and cries of "traitor."

"They called my predecessor Judas Iscariot so if I'm only a traitor that's not too bad," Trimble said.

"I've had abuse thrown at me over 35 years, including 10 bullets by the IRA," Taylor said.

Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein, the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political arm, will also seek support for the accord at his party's annual conference the same weekend.

The deal must be approved by a majority of people in both Northern Ireland and the southern Republic of Ireland, in simultaneous referendums next month.

The second biggest Protestant unionist party has already started campaigning against, and there is a risk that splinter guerrilla groups on both sides will step up shootings and bombings to try and wreck the deal.

In the Irish Republic, the government will have to convince voters to give up its claim on the north, enshrined in Dublin's constitution since 1921.

Sinn Fein declared that the

accord would not end its long struggle to unify all Irish people in one republic, a goal rejected by its Protestant rivals.

Under the deal, Northern Ireland will remain part of the United Kingdom unless majorities north and south of the Irish border choose unity.

A 108-seat assembly will be elected with a 12-member cabinet and there will be new bodies to build links between north and south and between Britain and Ireland.

US President Bill Clinton vowed the United States would continue its drive to end the sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

Clinton said in his weekly radio address: "There may be those who seek to undermine this agreement by returning to violence, so we are resolved that the acts of peace and courage will triumph over acts of cowardice and terror." The Vatican said the accord honors all Europe.

"We give thanks for the peace in Northern Ireland, which honors our Europe," Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano said on Italian state television RAI. Pope John Paul has often appealed for an end to sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard congratulated the peace brokers, saying: "This historic achievement holds out the prospect for an end to the bitter sectarian strife which has divided and afflicted the people of Northern Ireland for so many decades."

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said, "We welcome Friday's agreement between the Irish Republic and the United Kingdom," in a statement issued yesterday by the official



Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern (from left), US Senator George Mitchell, and British Prime Minister Tony Blair are all smiles after signing the Northern Ireland peace agreement in Belfast on Friday. (Reuters)

Palestinian news agency Wafa. "We hope it will pave the way for achieving peace and coexistence in

the [Middle East] region," he said. South African President Nelson Mandela said the deal "once again

demonstrated the value of negotiation and consultation rather than confrontation and upheaval."

French Socialist Jack Lang suggested the lead negotiators should share a Nobel Peace Prize.

Clinton support crucial in pact

WASHINGTON — There were eight parties and two governments around the table in Belfast in the final hours of the negotiations that produced a framework for peace in Northern Ireland Friday. President Clinton was an ocean away, but his direct participation in the talks played a crucial role in pushing the politicians toward agreement.

The president's involvement in the final negotiations — which included a series of telephone calls overnight and early Friday — marked the culmination of more than four years of intensive, risky, and sometimes controversial personal diplomacy. And while Clinton in his public remarks Friday said the credit "belongs to the people who made the decisions," there is little doubt that the agreement would not have been realized without him.

It took an unusual confluence of events and personalities to produce Friday's agreement, including the strong role played by former Senate majority leader George J. Mitchell, who chaired the negotiations. But it was a risky decision by Clinton in 1994 that helped change the US role in Northern Ireland and helped to make the peace process possible.

Early that year, Clinton was presented with a request for a visa by Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army. Adams' previous requests had been rejected, because of his links to terrorism and the absence of a cease-fire in Northern Ireland.

Tony Lake, then the president's national security adviser, and Nancy Soderberg, who was the National Security Council staff director, encouraged Clinton to approve the request, but then-Secretary of State

ANALYSIS

Warren Christopher and Attorney General Janet Reno were opposed.

The opponents of the visa argued that Adams should not be rewarded with a US visit until the IRA demonstrated its willingness to turn away from violence. Supporters argued that allowing Adams in might help persuade Sinn Fein's leaders "to move toward peace," as Lake put it. Clinton's decision to give Adams the visa produced a significant rupture with the British government of then-prime minister John Major.

But on August 31, 1994, the IRA announced a cease-fire, and for the first time, Clinton's policy appeared to be bearing fruit. "Without the president's involvement, I don't think you would have seen an IRA cease-fire," said an Irish government official.

With the cease-fire in place, Clinton approved a conference on investment in Northern Ireland as a way to signal US interest in the region, and he recruited Mitchell to take on the job of economic envoy, a role that eventually led to his selection as peace talks chairman.

Unionist leaders like David Trimble, and even those with ties to the loyalist paramilitary organizations, were invited to Washington for meetings with NSC officials and the president himself.

Administration officials mark Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland in November 1995 as another turning point, an experience that drew him even more deeply into the issue and that encouraged him to continue

pushing for a peaceful settlement in the face of later setbacks. Clinton drew huge crowds in Northern Ireland from both communities, and he told them, "We will stand by you as you take risks for peace."

The president's commitment was important when the IRA cease-fire ended with a huge bombing in London little more than two months after his visit. The February 1996 bombing wasn't the only setback. Major's narrow parliamentary majority prevented the British leader from taking bolder action on Northern Ireland and the likelihood that the Conservatives would be tossed out of office in the 1997 election brought progress to a standstill.

Prime Minister Tony Blair's huge election victory last May provided what one administration official described as "a profound sense of opportunity" for progress on Northern Ireland, and Blair moved with unexpected speed to take on the issue — buttressed by support from Clinton. Blair promised Sinn Fein a seat at the peace table if the IRA reestablished its cease-fire, and behind the scenes the US offered both private reassurances and clear warnings of the consequences of not meeting Blair's terms.

As the talks stalled during the winter, and there was a resumption of sporadic violence, Clinton encouraged all the parties to reach beyond their past hatreds and not to let the moment slip away. In the final hours of the talks, Clinton spoke with Blair four times, with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern twice, with Adams twice, with Trimble once, and twice with John Hume, the leader of the Social and Democratic Labor Party.

(The Washington Post)

The fight goes on for victims' relatives

By SUE LEEMAN

BELFAST (AP) — As a divided province digests news that it is to get its own government, Agnes Mulvenna laid flowers yesterday on the grave of her son James, an Irish Republican Army member killed by British forces — and said his campaign for a united Ireland goes on.

"Look at all these graves, all young men — and heroes," said Mulvenna, 69, gesturing across rows of gravestones in west Belfast's Milltown cemetery, where many leaders of the struggle against British rule are buried. "We've suffered too much to give up now."

Across town, Protestant Sandra Peacock came close to breakdown at the thought that under Friday's peace agreement, both IRA killers and the pro-British gunmen who killed her husband Jim in September 1993 could soon be freed. Neither Protestant paramilitary groups nor the Irish Republican Army have been required to give undertakings that they will relinquish their arms.

"We have chosen the terrorists and I feel sick," said Peacock, who cradled her prison officer husband as he died. "It is just devastating and morally wrong. You cannot release convicted killers."

Leaders of eight political parties who thrashed out Friday's compromise deal that would give Northern Ireland its own 108-seat assembly and a new cross-border council face a tough task trying to sell it to their party workers and electors.

Those who regularly visit the graves of their loved ones lost in nearly 30 years of sectarian butchery are among the hardest to convince. More than 3,000 victims of the "troubles" are buried across the province, and many more have been injured in the cross-fire.

Lord Tebbit, a former Conservative Party lawmaker and cabinet member whose wife was paralyzed when the IRA bombed a Brighton hotel occupied by Tory leaders in 1984, said the agreement was "a considerable victory for the IRA."

"They have their command structure intact.

They have their weapons and shortly they will regain those who are currently in prison," said Tebbit.

Every week for 23 years, Margaret Allsop has visited the windswept Milltown Cemetery where her brother Robert lies with James Mulvenna and other IRA "volunteers," including three gunned down by British forces in Gibraltar on March 6, 1988.

A member of the IRA's youth wing, 15-year-old Robert was shot by unidentified Protestant gunmen as he prepared to go to a disco near his home in the Catholic New Lodge neighborhood of west Belfast.

"I hope for peace, but that won't change how I feel about my brother's death," said Allsop. "Nothing is worth a life." Mulvenna was killed by British soldiers at the age of 28 while he and two others tried to blow up a post office in the Protestant Shankill area.

His mother, also a frequent visitor to the cemetery, said she wants to read the agreement before making up her mind whether to support it.

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Yeltsin plans new vote on PM by Friday

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russia's opposition-dominated parliament rejected President Boris Yeltsin's choice of prime minister on Friday, but the Kremlin leader stuck to his guns by immediately nominating Sergei Kiriyenko again.

In a day of suspense and surprises, 186 deputies in the State Duma lower house voted against Kiriyenko and 143 for — a much narrower margin of defeat than had been expected. Not all 450 deputies were in the wood-paneled chamber and five abstained, leaving the 35-year-old former banker 83 votes shy of a majority. Yet, with trademark understatement, Kiriyenko took heart from the result and said he would press ahead with consulting Russia's disparate political forces.

"I had expected less support," he told reporters at the Duma, which is close to the Kremlin in central Moscow.

Just 40 minutes after the vote, Kremlin spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said the president had sent a letter to parliament

renominating Kiriyenko, a former energy minister with less than a year's government experience. The Duma must vote for the second time by next Friday.

Yastrzhembsky said it was possible Yeltsin would meet the speakers of the Duma and Federation Council upper house. Russian news agencies quoted Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov as saying the meeting could take place Monday.

Under the constitution Yeltsin must dissolve parliament and call an early election if it rejects his candidate three times. The 67-year-old president made clear it was Kiriyenko or bust.

"I have no other candidate," he said in a radio address, adding that every day without a government damaged the economy.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov said his party would boycott any further debate on Kiriyenko and slammed Yeltsin's decision to renominate him as "petty tyranny."

"We considered Kiriyenko and we voted. The Duma has made a decision on him and we are not

returning to this issue again," said Zyuganov, whose faction is the largest in the chamber.

In his address to the Duma, Kiriyenko painted a grim picture of Russia's economic plight, but vowed to speed up reforms. Industrial growth and a strong ruble were his priorities, but he promised to protect ordinary people.

Later he told reporters Russia and the International Monetary Fund had agreed in principle on an economic statement that would help unlock vital IMF funding this year.

Within minutes of Kiriyenko's Duma speech, parties lined up to confirm they would not be backing the man Yeltsin named acting premier after he sacked the old cabinet on March 23.

Before long, Duma party leaders had made clear a crushing majority would either vote against or abstain. Only the Our Home is Russia faction of former prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said some of its 65 deputies would back Kiriyenko.



Under water

A man kayaks past a partly submerged car in the parking lot of a sports center in Banbury, England, on Friday. Three people died and one was reported missing when Britain's worst floods in half a century turned the Easter weekend into a washout. (Reuters)

Iran earthquake kills 11

By AFSHIN VALINEJAD

HASSAN-KOLANGI, Iran (AP) — Families and rescue workers searched yesterday for more victims of an earthquake that killed 11 people, flattened a dozen villages and left more than 1,500 people homeless in this remote northeastern region.

Friday's magnitude-5.9 quake destroyed more than 600 homes and shook dozens of villages in an area stretching 175 kilometers from the cities of Birjand to Gonabad in Khorasan province.

Thirty people were injured, Mohammed Abbasi, the mayor of Sarbisheh, one of the worst hit towns, told the official Islamic Republic News Agency. "We have officially

stopped the search for survivors, because we believe there are no more casualties," said a government official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Shortly after the quake hit at 7:31 p.m., relief workers, aided by the light of a full moon, pitched tents and distributed food, kerosene stoves and blankets to survivors.

At night, temperatures drop to four degrees in the remote area, which is dotted by poor villages and mud huts. The area has no telephones or electricity.

At the crack of dawn yesterday, 100 aid workers picked at the rubble with shovels looking for signs of life — then for victims — aided by relatives of the missing who also tried to extract utensils and other belongings from the

debris.

Bulldozers removed piles of rubble and reopened many roads that had been blocked by fallen rocks. The death toll was relatively low because the quake was preceded by a loud boom, giving many residents in this quake-prone region a chance to flee their homes, witnesses said.

"There was a thunderous noise, like rocks exploding, and everyone ran out of their homes," said Mohammed Khajazi, a grocer who has survived tremors before. "I was already outside when the earth started shaking."

Fresh graves were dug in the village of Hassan-Kolangi, where there were 10 victims.

Study: Baby milk makers breaking WHO code

LONDON (Reuters) — Child health experts said on Friday that baby milk manufacturers were breaking an international code for marketing breast milk substitutes by issuing free samples.

Nearly 200 countries adopted the WHO code in 1966 to encourage breast feeding, particularly in developing countries, and to protect mothers from pressure by milk companies to use their products.

But a study by UNICEF's Interagency Group on Breastfeeding Monitoring in Bangladesh, Poland, South Africa and Thailand found that 21 companies were giving away samples of their products in direct violation of the agreement.

One tenth of the mothers interviewed and nearly a quarter of the health facilities that took part in the study had received free milk substitutes and other products. "Both the number and nature of code violations suggest that systematic contravention of the codes exists; it would be reasonable to believe that similar violations are occurring at similar rates in other cities and countries," research coordinator Anna Taylor said in the study published in the *British Medical Journal*.

The World Health Organization estimates that 1.5 million babies each year could be prevented from dying if women breast-fed their infants.

Scientific studies have shown that breast-fed babies are less likely to develop ear infection or diarrhoea, have fewer childhood illnesses and do better at school.

But despite the mounting medical evidence many mothers are choosing to bottle-feed. Anthony Costello, of the Institute of Child Health at University College in London, said the study probably underestimated the size of the problem in developing countries, where breastfeeding carries the highest risk of death.

"From the 48 least developed countries, only Bangladesh was included, a country with a good recent record on breast-feeding protection," he said in an accompanying report in the *British Medical Journal*.

The international code for marketing breast milk substitutes, which was endorsed by baby milk manufacturers, does not allow companies to give free samples of their products to mothers or health workers, except for professional research.

It also forbids them to influence doctors or nurses to promote their products by giving them free gifts. Costello said governments should incorporate the articles of the WHO code into legislation and action should be taken against companies which violate it.

Flying pigs grounded as ad crashes

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Pigs might fly, but they should not advertise cellular phones, a South African mobile phone retailer discovered this week.

Cellular phone network provider MTN had to withdraw an advertisement featuring flying pigs and apologize to Moslem customers for causing offense.

"Our agency designed the copy in good faith, never dreaming that it would offend anyone," MTN said in a statement. "We explored several alternatives like flying elephants or even dachshunds, but in the end we decided to steer clear of animals altogether."

South Africa's cellular phone market, just over three years old, has attracted over one million users and industry sources see a sales potential of between four million and 10 million in a decade.

In show of support for moderates

Iranian minister visits family of detained Teheran mayor

TEHERAN (AP) — Iran's interior minister has visited the family of Teheran's imprisoned mayor, another show of support by the country's moderate government in its growing confrontation with hard-line clerics.

In a gesture laced with symbolism, Interior Minister Abdollah Nouri visited Mayor Gholamhossein Karbaschi's family Friday, according to the official Islamic Republic News Agency.

The 44-year-old reformist mayor was arrested a week ago in a corruption probe of city council and awaits a trial that may begin later this month.

His arrest sparked a confrontation between the moderate government and the independent judiciary, which is led by hard-line Ayatollah Mohammed Yazdi.

Moderates say the mayor was targeted because he ran President Mohammed Khatami's successful election campaign last May, defeating ultra-conservative Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar

Nateq-Nouri.

Khatami's cabinet has continued to recognize Karbaschi as mayor and said it would help him run the city of eight million people from behind bars.

The Interior Ministry has questioned the competence of the judiciary in trying the case, and some moderate groups threatened street protests.

Nouri, returning from a pilgrimage to Mecca, said he brought the mayor's family a piece of black cloth that covers the Kaaba, a stone structure inside the Grand Mosque, to present to the mayor "as a token of appreciation for his services."

The black cloth is changed every year before the annual pilgrimage to Mecca begins, and pieces of the old cloth are distributed by Saudi officials as gifts.

On Thursday, Teheran's municipal officials took their cause to senior clerics in Qom, the center of Iran's religious hierarchy, IRNA said.

It quoted Ayatollah Abdolkarim

Musavi-Ardabili, a former head of the judiciary, as praising Karbaschi for transferring Teheran "from a big village."

He said Karbaschi's arrest was "damaging to Islam." Prosecutors say the mayor instructed some city council officials to misappropriate public funds. Karbaschi was reportedly implicated in embezzling funds in the Boostan shopping complex project in western Teheran.

Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, a hard-liner, on Thursday summoned the country's top clerical rulers to a meeting in an attempt to arbitrate.

As Teheran's mayor since 1989, Karbaschi has improved public services and the appearance of the capital. But his management style, which some see as high-handed, has earned him many critics.

The Teheran newspaper *Farda* said yesterday that Karbaschi's wife and daughter were allowed to visit him Thursday for the first time in prison.

Biofeedback said to help constipation

LONDON (Reuters) — Patients with chronic constipation who do not respond to conventional treatments may benefit from biofeedback therapy, according to a team of UK researchers.

Dr. E. Chiotakou-Faliakou and colleagues from St. Mark's Hospital in London report that biofeedback therapy, which includes training in normal bowel habits, was still helping patients two years after the first treatment.

The study appears in the April edition of the journal *Gut*. The biotherapy received by the patients involved the insertion of a balloon inflated with air into the patient's rectum.

Two electrodes were used to record anal sphincter activity. In

the therapy, patients learned how to strain without increasing sphincter activity and how to use their abdominal muscles.

"This study has shown that biofeedback is a successful treatment for constipation which patients and their doctor judge to have been unresponsive to other treatments," the researchers report.

Chiotakou-Faliakou and colleagues found that more than half of a study group of 100 patients who had once received biofeedback reported significant improvement in the follow-up testing.

Moreover, the patients, who were predominantly female, had significantly reduced their use of oral laxatives, enemas, and suppositories.

"Symptom improvement related not only to bowel frequency, but also to associated symptoms such as bloating, which patients often consider to be the most troublesome and which often are the least responsive to other treatments," the researchers report.

Policemen charged after man killed in India

HYDERABAD, India (AP) — Authorities charged three policemen with murder yesterday after a man was burned to death for a crime his brother allegedly committed.

Fareed Khan, a 32-year-old cook, was found Friday with burns to 90 percent of his body on the outskirts of Hyderabad, the capital of southern Andhra Pradesh state.

Before he died yesterday, Khan told officials the three policemen poured kerosene on him, set him on fire and then fled.

His death provoked protests in Hyderabad, where nearly 200 people attacked and ransacked a police station and threw stones at policemen, injuring two of them.

The protesters also burned some buses. Businesses in several parts of the city remained closed yesterday and anti-riot police patrolled trouble spots.

its arms."

But as the meeting began, about 50 Protestants from the nearby working-class Shankill district arrived to wave banners praising Trimble's support for the accord.

Many were relatives of imprisoned members of Northern Ireland's two major pro-British paramilitary groups, the outlawed Ulster Defense Association and the Ulster Volunteer Force, who also would win early paroles if the agreement works.

These protesters waved British flags and wielded placards reading, "David Trimble, the leader who gave us peace" and "Support Trimble's brave decision, peace for all!"

Like Trimble's Ulster Unionists, another party critical to the process faces difficulties selling the package to its grassroots — Sinn Fein.

Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams faces dissent from those who can't stomach the fact that the agreement leaves Northern Ireland still standing and firmly linked to Britain.

Also, the Irish Republic has promised to amend the part of its constitution that claims Northern Ireland as part of its state.

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Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

It's hard to guess just who the members of Dance of Simchas think their audience is. Jews with a soft spot for traditional Jewish music? Or the great masses of dance freaks? As hard as it may be to imagine, this is the line walked by *Aleichem ve'aleinu* ("Unto You and Unto Us"), the new album by Dance of Simchas. They have taken well-loved Jewish standards like "Moad ani" ("I Thank You") and "Cheeribim Cheeribom" and

attempted to turn them into dance hits.

"Attempted" is the operative word here. This is a silly exercise in trying to find the meeting points between two styles of music that have nothing to do with each other.

While it is true that recent years have seen any number of successful projects in which ethnic music has been combined with modern sensibilities, the really good albums have generally allowed the ethnicity to shine through, while using the new technology or pop rhythms to support and broaden the wealth of material.

There seems to be a misguided attempt at balance in *Aleichem ve'aleinu*, an effort to give each musical style its due, the end result being that both get mangled. The worst example of this can be found in the sadly ruined "Devarim nistarim" ("Hidden Things"). This song about the essential human incoherence was given heart-rendering treatment by Zohar Argov many years ago.

ALEICHEM VE'ALEINU

("Unto You and Unto Us")
Dance of Simchas
Tevet Productions
★ ★

ISRA-ALIEN JUNGLE

Various Artists
BNE
★ ★ ★

Zehava Ben recently reinterpreted the song, investing it with her own inimitable touch. But why would anyone give this group's watered-down and badly sung rendition so much as a second thought?

The one track that manages to do what Dance of Simchas was trying to do all along is the final song on the album, a re-mix of a track which appears earlier, "Barchani le'shalom" ("Bless Me with Peace"). Here, the emphasis is clearly on the dance side of the equation, with the occasional bit of Jewish tradition as interesting

contrast. But if one good song is all these boys can offer, they'd be better off staying home.

Isra-Alien Jungle's subtitle, "Drum 'n' Bass from the Middle East," says it all. This is real drum 'n' bass — which could hold its own against a lot of the jungle heard on the dance floors of Europe — with a touch of Middle Eastern flavor.

For those who didn't quite understand that last sentence, a quick explanation: 1990's dance music is rife with styles sporting names such as techno, trip-hop and house. Jungle, or drum 'n' bass, is characterized by a slower, almost tribal sound and a beat which moves the pelvis almost of its own accord. It's among my favorite of the dance styles because it feels far more human than the other, often coldly technical forms.

A handful of music industry players have been saying for years that if Israel ever wants to export its music, the best (and possibly

only) place to start is dance, where language differences disappear. If the tracks do have the occasional lyric, they are generally in English.

This compilation of some of the best offerings from our underground dance scene is a good example of how spot-on the argument is. While not perfect, *Isra-Alien Jungle* is a tight collection of good tracks which could easily be sent abroad to put us on the dance map.

"Invitation to the Dance" and "Orme" have a particularly Middle Eastern stamp, though the latter also successfully introduces lyrical elements of latter-day funk and rap.

For those who are a little bit in the know, suffice it to say that many of these artists seem to be fans of Justin Robertson and his Lonerock project, particularly Pre Cycle on their track "If Only."

Purchasing *Isra-Alien Jungle* is a safe bet for both old hands and newcomers to the scene — plus you'll be supporting the local artist!

Shock rocker Wendy O. Williams dies at 48

Wendy O. Williams, whose stage theatrics as lead singer of the punk band The Plasmatics included blowing up equipment and chain-sawing guitars, committed suicide early last week. She was 48.

Williams' former manager and longtime companion Rod Swenson said he discovered her body in a wooded area near their home. The state medical examiner said Williams died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Swenson said Williams had been despondent for some time.

Williams, dubbed the "queen of shock rock," sported a trademark Mohawk haircut and was nominated in 1985 for a Grammy in the best Female Rock Vocal category during the height of the band's popularity.

A native of Webster, New York, Williams with her on-stage antics quickly attracted a following for the Plasmatics, who debuted in

New York City clubs in 1978.

Police in Milwaukee arrested Williams and Swenson in 1981 after she allegedly simulated a sex act in concert at a nightclub. Charges of battery to an officer and obscene conduct against Williams were later dropped, and a jury cleared Swenson of obstructing an officer. Obscenity charges against Williams in Cleveland were also dropped, Swenson said.

The band made several international tours, was once banned in London, and appeared on Tom Snyder's *Tomorrow* show, where they blew up a car in the studio.

Swenson said he and Williams moved to Storrs in 1991, three years after the group's last tour. She had not performed for several years and had worked most recently as an animal rehabilitator, he said.

She is survived by her mother and two sisters. (AP)

Grateful jazz



By J.D. Considine

Dead-oriented show.

Johnson, after all, made his name with the fusion group Weather Report; Cobham drummed with both Miles Davis and the Mahavishnu Orchestra; and Lavitz came to prominence with the Dixie Dregs.

But there is a connection there, says Johnson, who admits to being something of a Grateful Dead fan. "Not in the sense of being a Deadhead," he says, laughing. "But in the sense that Billy and I spent some time touring and playing with (Grateful Dead guitarist) Bobby Weir. We did the *Bobby & the Madnights* album together and spent pretty much a year playing in that band." Johnson also paid attention to what bassist Phil Lesh played with the Dead. "Just like I followed Ron Carter with Miles Davis or Paul McCartney with the Beatles," he says.

Since heading out on the Jazz Is Dead tour, Johnson has developed a finer appreciation of the Dead's music. "These are great songs," he says. "I didn't fully appreciate these songs until we got to rehearsal, and they're really, really interesting songs to play."

He has also been surprised at the kind of audiences the tour has reached. "It's a nice mix of Grateful Dead fans, fusion fans and jazz fans," he says. "I even see a lot of young, alternative rock fans in the audience. It's really interesting."

Mainly, though, he appreciates how lively the playing has been on these Jazz Is Dead shows. So far, no two shows have been alike.

"Without fail, almost every night, we've added a new song," he says. "We'll talk onstage, like musicians used to do, about what (song) we want to do next."

Best of all, he says, the audiences seem to enjoy the group's seat-of-the-pants spontaneity. "They seem to appreciate the fact that we're doing it in the moment," says Johnson. "I think it kind of makes them seem more a part of it."

(The Baltimore Sun)



Avital Yitzhary-Mizlin collects stones in 'Mangroosim.'

Homeless habits

By HELEN KAYE

Mangroosim has a grinding, chewing sound to it, a sound which pleases choreographer Ruth Ziv Eyal. She coined the word as the title of her new work, which is about stones and a homeless woman, danced by actress/dancer Avital Yitzhary-Mizlin.

Mangroosim premieres at Suzanne Dallal on April 23 and runs for four performances.

"Mangroosim" doesn't mean anything," says Ziv Eyal. "It's gibberish, and I don't want to talk about associations that the title might evoke. The mangroosim are the stones and all they stand for."

Stones are what her homeless woman collects. The homeless are all collectors "and it doesn't really matter what they collect. Each piece has a meaning for the collector."

Stones have been around a long time, and for Ziv Eyal the stones are witnesses "that absorb everything but make no answer. A stone

can be anything, and everything. The names of stones evoke layer upon layer of associations, like tombstones, milestone, precious stone, cornerstone."

Ziv Eyal, who teaches movement to actors at Tel Aviv University, started her career working with director Michael Alfreida in the '70s. She has created works for the Israel Festival and the Kibbutz Dance Company, but she stopped accepting commissions in 1989 and began to work only with her own company.

This is Ziv Eyal's first work in four years. Her last was part six of a planned seven-part odyssey called *The Way of the Messenger*, an introspective, nakedly honest and very moving piece.

It doesn't bother her that she doesn't produce. Ziv Eyal's pieces gestate over time, and she is never in any hurry. On this one she worked for six months.

The homeless have always fascinated her. "I've been watching them for 30 years. I always knew I'd do a work on them some day."

Zichron's musical Pessah

By MICHAEL ALZENSTADT

About ten years ago, husband and wife violinist Vera Vidman and pianist Emanuel Krasovsky attended a Beethoven weekend at Beit Daniel in the serene surroundings of Zichron Ya'acov.

"We were sitting on the grass relaxing when we noticed another couple with children of similar ages to ours," recalls Krasovsky. "The man was the son of judge Agranat, and the place was owned by the family. The couple talked about their wish to revive the musical tradition and concerts which had been part of the place many years earlier."

"In past years, Beit Daniel was the hottest meeting place for visiting musicians in Israel. Among its guests were Igor Stravinsky, Arturo Toscanini, Sergei Koussevitzky and many others," says Krasovsky.

A short time later the husband and wife musician duo, traveling back home from an appearance at the Kfar Blum Festival, decided to stay at Beit Daniel for a few days' rest.

"Suddenly it dawned on us that here was an opportunity to do in Zichron Ya'acov something similar to the festival in Kfar Blum, on a much smaller scale. The scenery was there, the atmosphere was there, and we could definitely bring the music," says Krasovsky.

And indeed they did. Half a year later, the first Musical Pessah at Beit Daniel took place. Soon performances began to take place twice a year — once on Pessah and then on Succot.

After that somewhat modest beginning, the place has had capacity crowds for its biannual programs, with many people and musicians returning year after year, season after season.

"We have a format which I believe is unique," Krasovsky explains.

The morning starts with breakfast, followed by an open rehearsal of the evening's concert. After lunch and a siesta, there is afternoon coffee and then a lecture discussion about the evening's program. Dinner is served at 7 and the concert starts at 8," he says.

According to Krasovsky, very few people come just for a one-evening concert in the 135-year hall.

"Music lovers come for the entire week or for a part of it. There is a special atmosphere of spending time with the same people — eating, resting and listening to music. The ambience is just right."

This year's Musical Pessah at Beit Daniel (tonight through Thursday) features relatively new musical works as well as those by the likes of Beethoven and Schubert.

One of the most amazing stories regarding this upcoming festival is the first performance in Israel of the piano trio version of Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* arranged by Edward Steuermann, who was the composer's friend and student.

"Steuermann wrote this arrangement in Vienna in 1932 as a gift for art lover and benefactor Alice Koller. In 1936, Steuermann left

Vienna to America while Koller remained in Vienna, where she managed to keep the score of the work throughout the war. In 1958, Steuermann arrived in Israel to present master classes at Beit Daniel. Koller came to see him and to return his score to him.

"Now, 40 years later, we will play this work for the first time in Israel, and I hope the audience likes it because it is quite different from the original all-string version," he says.

Tickets to Musical Pessah at Beit-Daniel are available by calling (06) 639-9001. But hurry, as tickets are selling very quickly to all programs.

The sooner you purchase your tickets, the sooner you'll know you will have an opportunity to enjoy a serene, esthetic musical presentation.

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Peace in Northern Ireland

Those who love peace will rejoice at the peace agreement reached for Northern Ireland on Friday, warmly congratulate those responsible, and hope that it leads to a just and lasting solution.

The fact that there were so many parties involved in the deal makes the achievement all the more impressive. Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, along with eight different Catholic and Protestant groups from Northern Ireland itself, showed the flexibility and creativity through 22 months of tough talks needed to succeed. Special credit is due to US negotiator George Mitchell and the strong personal engagement of President Bill Clinton.

This 67-page agreement must now be approved by the British and Irish parliaments and then by referendums in Great Britain and the Irish Republic, though this seems very likely. Britain would be giving up full control over Northern Ireland, while the Irish Republic would be abandoning its claim to the territory. A May 22 referendum in Northern Ireland would also have to approve the treaty.

Many of the problems negotiating an end to this conflict — whose roots go back several centuries and has claimed 3,000 lives in the last 30 years — are familiar to Middle Easterners. British Prime Minister Tony Blair needed to secure a comfortable election majority last May to let him take political risks. Blair then accepted the participation of the political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) at the bargaining table, but only if it stopped using violence. The United States first proved its evenhandedness by giving a visa to a controversial figure (Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing), risking friction with an old ally (Great Britain). Washington repeatedly threatened to abandon the process if IRA terrorism continued. Now the US promises a large aid program to underpin the agreement.

In the last analysis, said Clinton in words which could have been borrowed from his speeches on the Arab-Israeli peace process, "the future of that region lies in the hearts and hands of its people." Those who seek to undermine this agreement by returning to violence must be defeated by "acts of peace and courage."

The peace plan's key point is to create several new institutions to handle a situation in which two peoples and two countries claim the same territory. A 108-member Northern Ireland Assembly to be elected in June would let Protestants and Catholics govern together, reducing London's power. Government would be by a 12-member cabinet, which, under the new rules, would almost certainly include both Protestant and Catholic members. Since the Assembly could also only pass laws by a 70

percent margin, parties from each ethnic group would have to find allies on the other side. A North-South Council would bring Assembly members together with counterparts from the Irish Republic's parliament to standardize laws and build cooperation. An East-West Council would bring together the Assembly members with counterparts in Britain's Parliament to ensure continued close links to London. In theory, this dynamic balance would make Protestants happy that Northern Ireland is still part of Great Britain, while the Catholics would be satisfied by closer ties with Ireland.

Militias are supposed to be disbanded. Foreign aid is supposed to ensure that living standards are improved in one of Europe's poorer regions. Northern Ireland would become part of the Irish Republic only if a majority in the North votes to do so. Ideally, Northern Ireland will stay forever under the shared rule of its two communities and forever suspended between Britain and Ireland. But, as our own painful experience in the last five years has shown, after the celebrations and mutual congratulations come the difficult, obstacle-strewn road to implementation.

The two key problems of the Northern Ireland agreement echo recent history here as well. First, this is a solution among moderates. Radicals on both sides will not like this accord and their chosen instrument to wreck it will be terrorism. Two Protestant groups refused to participate at all, while the IRA's diplomats will have to convince its gunmen to lay down their arms. Both sides' organizations have a long history of splits every time leaders take a more moderate stance. Since about two-thirds of Northern Ireland's people are Protestants, the Catholic Irish nationalists will never be able to win a peaceful referendum to reach their goal, the merger of that province into the Republic of Ireland. Once this is apparent, the extremists might resort to violence again.

Second, the agreement is very complex, though this is inescapable given the intricate issues and passionate mistrust involved. There could be a breakdown on any one of a score of different issues. On the positive side, compared to the Middle East, there are no outside radical states seeking to undermine peace in order to further their own ambitions. There are no holy sites or massive refugee problems involved. The national survival of neither Britain nor Ireland is at stake.

"Of course," Clinton said, "we understand that the pain and hatred of so many years cannot and will not be washed away in one week-end." The hope, for Ireland as well as ourselves, is that the desire to live in peace after so many years will not be washed away by extremists and the enterprise's inherent difficulties.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'TKUMA'

Sir, — The comments made by Yosef Goell about the TV program *Tkuma* ("Justified Responses," March 16) probably expressed the feelings of many disappointed viewers. Permit me to mention another important omission from this program:

While *Tkuma* gives exaggerated coverage to the distress of the Arab refugees (about 100,000 of whom returned under the family reunification scheme) the producers do not relate to the suffering of an almost identical number of Jewish refugees who arrived from Arab countries, escaping the violent eruption of Arab nationalism that spread mainly in the wake of the withdrawal of the colonial powers.

But for Israel's open doors, the Jewish people may have faced another tragedy with the almost total dissolution of its most ancient Diaspora so soon after the Holocaust in Europe.

Suffice to mention the pogroms in Baghdad, (1941); in Egypt and Libya (1945); in Aden and Aleppo (1947) and almost everywhere else after 1948. The former head of the

Tripolitanian Jewish community put it succinctly: "We left [Libya] with one suitcase, 20 British pounds and 2,300 years of history."

The Arabs confiscated billions of dollars worth of Jewish private and communal property, apart from what was destroyed in the riots. The lives lost can never be restored or the suffering calculated.

This was an exchange of populations — the smallest since World War I and the only one where refugees (the Arabs) have been kept as political pawns for 50 years.

No Arabs have expressed regret over injustices done to Jews by Moslems. The producers of *Tkuma* seem equally insensitive to this dimension of the conflict. Also, by concentrating only on the negative aspects of the immigration of Eastern Jewry, they insult both the state and these one-time refugees. Though there were mistakes, an enormous physical effort was made to bring these Jews to a safe haven — an effort (after a major war) that has no propo-

national equal anywhere in the world. At the same time, they fail to feature the signal contribution made by Jews from Arab countries in every field of Israel's development.

MALKA HILLEL SHULEWITZ

Jerusalem.

DIRECT ELECTIONS

Sir, — After voting for the amnesty bills, MK Eli Ben-Menahem is quoted as follows: "I came to the Knesset to support the weaker sectors who voted for me." (JP, March 26).

No one voted for Ben-Menahem to become a Knesset member. People voted for a party list upon which his name appeared. Ben-Menahem is responsible to a political party and not a constituency. To create a true representative democracy, Knesset members must be elected directly by the people, as is done for mayors today.

ELI RUDEN

Ra'anana.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On April 12, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that 123 Rumanians who arrived on the s.s. *Ardeal* and whose visas were in order were refused the permission to land because their right to enter as tourists was disputed by the immigration authorities. They were finally permitted to disembark for a one week stay on a bond of 100 Palestinian pounds for each one, which was offered by Rabbi Kook and Mr. Yitzhak Ben-Zvi. A *Palestine Post* representative who visited them on board found them

in a state of great perturbation.

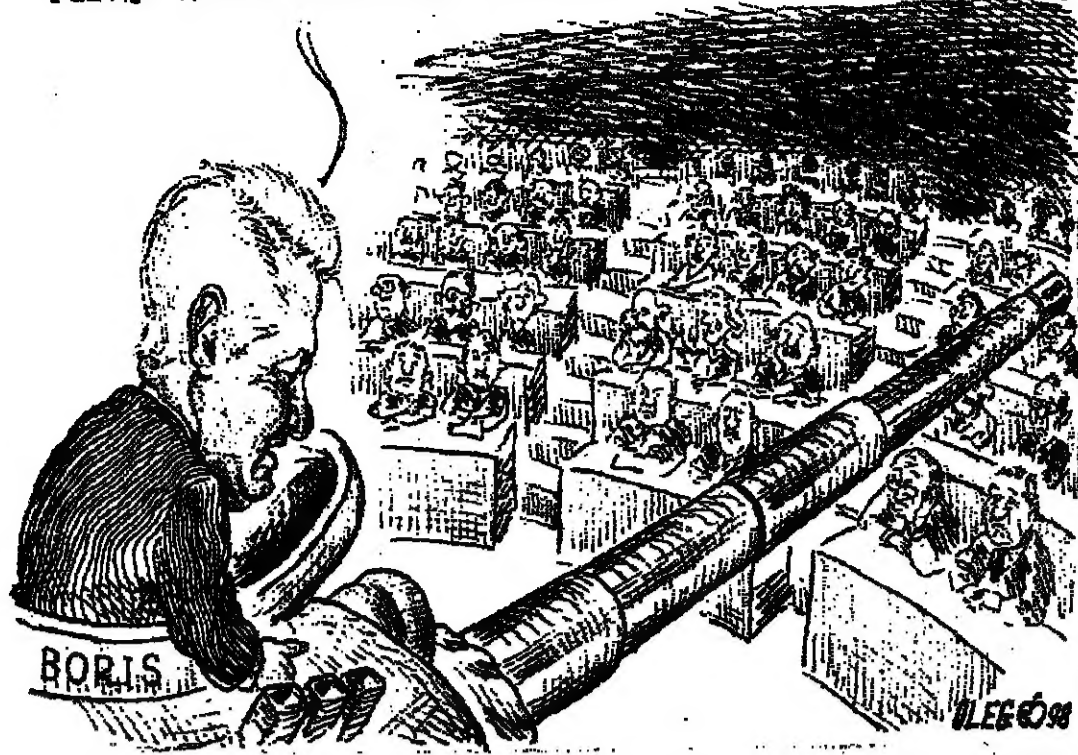
50 years ago: On April 12, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the battle of Mount Castel continued and Kolonia village, overlooking Motza, was destroyed by the Hagana. Meanwhile, despite an official report that the Arabs had recaptured the Castel, the Hagana remained in the firm possession of the hill.

25 years ago: On April 12, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* report-

ed defence minister Moshe Dayan's speech in which he demanded that Israel must not develop a Masada complex, but should turn the heroic legacy of Masada into action, such as was carried out a day earlier by a select force of naval troops and commandos which attacked seven targets in the heart of Beirut in one of the most daring raids in the annals of Israeli military history.

Alexander Zvielli

I'LL ASK NICELY ONE MORE TIME: ACCEPT MY CANDIDATE...



Post-Zionist folly

DAVID WEINBERG

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak has introduced legislation to draft the haredim. In a television interview last week he also blasted them for many of this country's ills, and warned that the haredim will take over the country unless the "forces of democracy" act to stop them.

Putting Barak's exaggerations aside, and the draft-dodging question too, what does Barak's broadside against the haredim tell us? That we're in for one of the most divisive, negative election campaigns ever in our history. And that the political leadership concern themselves very little with the fraying fabric of our society, and the deleterious impact of their demagoguery; the key is to win, no matter what.

Several months ago, Labor MK Nissim Zivili gave me advanced warning of the impending Labor campaign against the haredim. It's like this, he explained. Polling taken privately for Labor shows that the opposition stands little chance in the coming years of breaking the bond that has developed between the right wing and the religious public. So how can Labor hope to recapture the premiership? Only by drawing secular voters away from Likud who can be scared into voting Labor "in order to save themselves from the haredi takeover."

In other words, Zivili lamented, basic election strategy will force Labor to run a Mercedes-style anti-haredi campaign: "They're coming to take over your neighborhood, your schools, your shopping malls, to steal your kids. Oy vey, watch out! Vote Labor to preserve your secular independence."

Negative campaigning, much like the "Labor will divide Jerusalem" campaign that Likud can be expected to run again. Expect a viciously dirty, bitterly divisive, mud-slinging election campaign.

Of course, this situation has developed because Labor has almost no other flags to fly; no symbols left, Zionist or otherwise, to pitch the public.

Settlement and security, the

traditional Labor socialist-Zionist themes, are symbols now associated with Likud. Socialism and social equality are a hard sell for Labor. The party is associated with the increasingly-wealthy capitalist elites, and Labor itself took apart the trade unions.

Aliya? There aren't many Jews left to bring, the Labor-dominat-

No one ever bought into Shimon Peres's "New Middle East," and Barak has offered no clear alternative peace strategy. At most, he can argue that he'd do a better job of managing the peace process than Bibi

ed Jewish Agency is bankrupt beyond imagination, and Labor won't win any veteran Israeli votes by promising to do more for the very unpopular Russian olim.

And peace? Well, no one ever really bought into Shimon Peres's "New Middle East," and Barak has offered no clear alternative peace strategy.

At most, Barak can argue that he'd do a better job of managing the peace process than Bibi. But no vision here.

Just who is most negatively affected by the ongoing demythologizing of the army, GSS and Mossad? Labor. These national security institutions were traditionally its preserve, and lent Labor the aura of establishment superiority.

And the post-Zionist deconstruction of Golda, Golda, Dayan and others — which the Likud intellectual elites have fed us in the TV series *Tkuma* — only further weakens public perceptions of Labor as the senior, patriotic political party born to rule.

Mr. Barak, a nation needs

"myths," national symbols, in order to survive. You need some positive Israeli symbols and values with which to wrap yourself in order to win. Don't peddle us anti-haredim either. We know that as prime minister you'd need them to govern, and would never implement what you propose.

And stay away from the post-Zionist advisors. As the outcry over *Tkuma* proves, the public resents the demythologizing of Israeli society. We still cherish the familiar, comfortable self-image of Israel as Zionist and idealistic (even if we're not completely).

"We are poorly served by a cultural and media elite who are alienated from the mainstream public," affirms the well-known political scientist Prof. Charles Liebman of Bar-Ilan University. "This elite, which is busy atomizing the Zionist worldview, has no appreciation of what the broad public needs or wants."

So, Mr. Barak, seek a vision and some positive ideals. How about playing up the kibbutzim? A Bar-Ilan University poll on Zionism released last week surprisingly demonstrates that the kibbutz still resonates as a very positive, Zionist value for most Israelis. Talk about a real battle against crime and violence in Israeli society. Everybody is worried about that, yet no political leader has truly addressed himself to the issue.

Try relating to our traditional sense of community and the lingering desire for commitment. I think Israelis are hungering for leadership that occasionally will make their hearts soar and intellect go into overdrive.

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," intoned president Kennedy, and no one considered him phony or melodramatic. Israel of the nineties may be more centered on self-fulfillment than ever before, but is still fitted, I think, for moral leaders of perspicacity, capable of evoking the spiritual or Zionist or whatever we might still believe in — every once in a while.

The wrong choices

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Despite his stunning legal victory in the Paula Jones lawsuit, President Clinton would have been much better off had he settled or even defaulted the case before being required to testify under oath about his sex life.

Judge Wright's decision did not establish that Paula Jones was lying when she accused then governor Clinton of improper actions. Only a jury trial could have established that, as I believe a jury trial in this case probably would have.

Clinton's victory came at a very high price. He put his presidency in the hands of a partisan and overzealous independent counsel. By allowing his client to testify under oath, Robert Bennett gave Kenneth Starr the biggest gift of his life — an excuse for continuing and expanding his never-ending criminal investigation. I do not believe that President Clinton should or will be impeached. But I do believe that his continuing problems stem largely from his lawyer Robert Bennett's decision to go forward with depositions, when he could have avoided these depositions by either settling or defaulting the case.

Bennett turned a political problem, which was within Clinton's power to control, into a legal disaster which is beyond Clinton's power to control.

For those who think that Bennett's strategy helped the president, ask yourself the following question: Would the president have been better off settling or defaulting the Jones case six months ago and incurring two or three days of negative press, or "winning" the case after swearing under oath to facts which are contradicted by the taped statements of Monica Lewinsky?

The nation and the law would also have benefited from an early settlement of the Jones case. The nation would have been spared the spectacle of a president testifying about his sex life. And the law of sexual harassment would not have been so badly distorted — as Judge Wright was required to do in order to reach the just result she did.

I believe that President Clinton was not guilty of sexual harassment because he did not do the things Paula Jones said he did. But I find it hard to agree with some of the reasoning in Judge Wright's opinion.

The opinion says that a supervisor's mere threat or promise of job-related harm or benefits in exchange for sexual favors does not constitute quid pro quo harassment. As I read this statement, it seems to suggest that if a supervisor gropes an employee and asks for sex, promising favors if she submits and threatening consequences if she does not, this is not against the law unless the employee either agrees to have sex or the supervisor carries through with his threats.

But if the employee does not sleep with the supervisor and the supervisor does not actually punish her, the threat alone does not constitute sexual harassment. Though there is some case law to support that view of sexual harassment, it seems wrong.

An employer who threatens reprisal against an employee who refuses to sleep with him should be deemed guilty of sexual harassment. If current law does not agree, it should be changed.

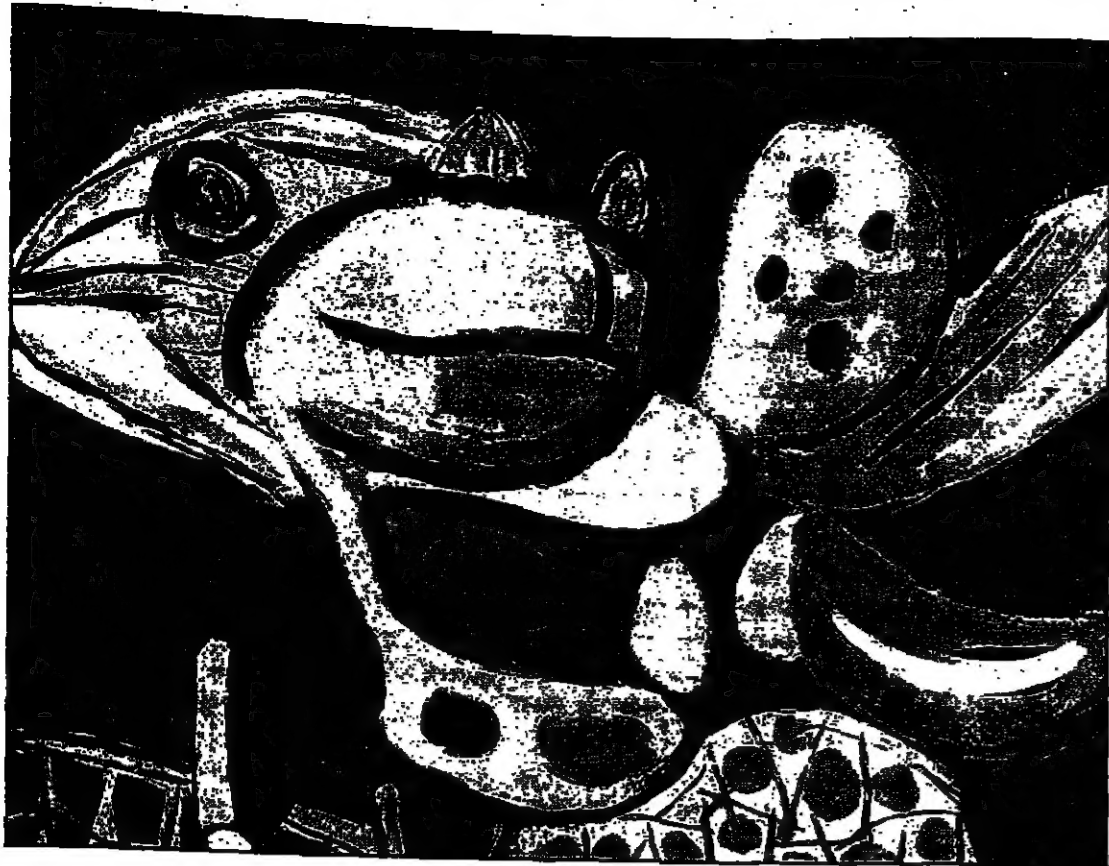
I suspect that Judge Wright did not believe Paula Jones. Indeed she explicitly refused to credit an affidavit submitted by her lawyers claiming that she suffered severe emotional distress and "consequent sexual aversion."

But she did not have the power to dismiss this case on the grounds that she disbelieved the plaintiff. Her only power was to dismiss the case on legal grounds. The consequence is a disquieting opinion which lies around like a loaded gun ready to be used as a precedent by real sexual harassers who use their positions as supervisors to try to extort sex from employees.

All in all, the Clinton victory in the Paula Jones case may prove in the end to be Pyrrhic. It has helped Clinton politically, but he didn't need much help in that arena. The president is left with a rejuvenated criminal investigation which would probably have ended by now were it not for Starr's windfall in obtaining the president's sworn testimony about Lewinsky. All of this could have been avoided if the president's lawyer had known where to pick his battles.

(United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

THE JERUSALEM POST



Karel Appel: 'Bird,' gouache, 1951 (Sotheby's Amsterdam, April 20)

Dating Chagall

AT THE AUCTIONS

Last week I wrote about a Marc Chagall gouache to be offered by Christie's Tel Aviv at its April 15 gala sale, noting that it exchanges the usual image of first wife Bella for that of Chagall's second consort, Virginia Haggard McNeil, with whom the artist spent seven years but never married.

In the catalog, this *Mother and Child*, carries the extremely unlikely date of 1973. The catalog doesn't say so, but this painting is clearly a depiction of the red-headed, blue-eyed Virginia holding Chagall's infant son David McNeil and is likely one of a number Chagall is known to have made of his common-law family between 1947-50.

Then, fed up with being an outsider in the Chagall family, Virginia left her much older husband for an even older photographer, taking her son with her but leaving behind several dozen works Chagall had given her. Chagall later claimed that he would pass them to her son.

Chagall was shattered when Virginia bolted, but in 1952 he married Valentina (Vava) Brodsky, who set about expunging Virginia and son from living memory. Vava even succeeded in deleting all references to Virginia's existence from the authorized biography by Chagall's former son-in-law, the noted historian Franz Meyer.

Chagall signed this gouache but didn't append a date. To my mind, there's no way he could have painted it 25 years later. In any case, Vava would never have let him.

Virginia and Vava were both brought into the master's orbit by Chagall's daughter Ida. None of the quarter are alive today. I hear that Taschen Books has just published a new biography by Jacob Baal Teshuva, which promises to reveal further details about Chagall's relationship to Virginia and their son.

AMONG THE rarely seen items



Lesser Ury: 'Woman in a Café,' oils, the '20s (Sotheby's Tel Aviv, April 14)

In the above Christie's sale is a striking charcoal drawing of a smart young woman crossing a Berlin street at night, made in 1930 by Lesser Ury (1861-1931), the Jewish painter who immortalized Berlin's streets and cafés of the '20s. This 'atmospheric and superbly composed work carries a dedication to its purchaser, Dr. Walther Bernard (\$10,000-\$18,000).

Another rare sighting is a vibrantly colored oil of a boy drinking from a gourd, painted by Eugene Zak (1884-1926), a Polish-Jewish painter who spent most of his short life in Paris (\$14,000-\$18,000). Among the works at Christie's is a recently seen 1983 seated nude in oils by Avigdor Arikha that was offered at a Ben Ami auction in Tel Aviv last September. (\$40,000-\$60,000). A Ludwig Blum oil of the entrance to the Jerusalem Citadel, entitled *Jerusalem, the Tower of David* and dated 1953, shows several Jewish pedestrians in sabbath finery, an impossibility during the Jordanian occupation of 1948-67, when the Old City was *judeen* (\$10,000-\$15,000).

OFFERED AT Sotheby's Tel Aviv on April 14 (a sale described in an earlier column) is an interesting Lesser Ury in stronger-than-usual color: *Woman in a Café*, a Berlin oil from the early 20s with an unusual and stylized composition suggesting deep perspective

(\$60,000-\$80,000). Collectors should also be interested in a David Bomberg oil of *The Pool of Bethesda*, painted in 1925 (\$60,000-\$80,000).

SOOTHEY'S LONDON offers lesser games in its April 22 sale of 'Old Master Drawings,' many of which are very beautiful and of reasonable estimate. Its sale of Old Master Paintings follows on April 23, replete with attributions to 'circle of,' 'school of,' etc. But there are some superb items in the catalog, like Jan van de Velde's beautiful 1658 tabletop still life with crayfish and oysters (\$20,000-\$30,000); and another by Pieter Claesz from 1630 (\$25,000-\$35,000).

AS NOTED recently, desperate dealers and collectors have taken to unloading cheap European genre painting and kitsch, partly because the sources for better stuff are drying up. Sales of tacky 19th and early 20th century paintings and sculpture are now being followed by a very mixed bag of American painting at Sotheby's New York on April 23, ranging from mid-19th century to mid-20th. The cover of the catalog, for instance, features a Norman Rockwell illustration from 1945 of an American sailor home on leave relaxing with his dog in, of course, a hammock. Not well painted and far from Rockwell's best, this oil has an



Norman Rockwell: 'Hop in Neighbor' oils, 1942 (Sotheby's New York, April 23)



Lesser Ury: 'Berlin Street,' charcoal on paper, 1930 (Christie's Tel Aviv, April 15)

estimate of \$60,000-\$80,000! There are better Rockwells in this sale for much much less money.

Apart from dozens of unworthy lots, there are good pieces by famous names: Stanton MacDonald Wright, Milton Avery, Albert Bierstadt, a fine Ralston Crawford from 1950, Stuart Davis, Robert Henri, Jack Levine, Walter Murch, Fairfield Porter (though far from his best), Raphael Soyer and Irving Ramsay Wiles.

SOOTHEY'S LONDON will hold a sale of superb Oriental Manuscripts and Miniatures on April 29, while Sotheby's Hong Kong will be offering several hundred Modern and Contemporary Chinese paintings on April 27, most of them based on classical traditions. More about these sales and others next week.

SOOTHEY'S AMSTERDAM is holding a sale on April 20 of CoBRA works, marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of this lively Copenhagen, Brussels and Amsterdam movement. Some very fine and quite wild oils by Luciebert, better known as an over-decorative carpet designer, are on offer, as well as a superb Karel Appel in an unexpectedly restrained color har-

mony (lot 151, Dfl. 90,000-Dfl. 130,000). In lot 195 by Appel one can see the origins of all the sheep paintings by Kadishman! Great paintings by Asger Jorn, Corneille, Constant and Appel dominate this very lively sale.

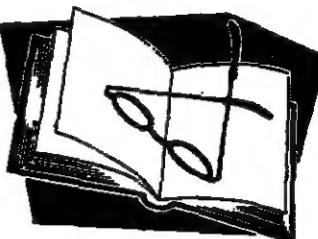
CHRISTIE'S HAS decided to give its monthly magazine and some of its catalogs a new look. The changes are not for the better. Sotheby's recently experimented with a new look before returning to the tried and trusted clarity of its traditional catalog format. Christie's Magazine has dropped the word 'International' and bunched all its captions together in accordance with current smart-assed design thinking, while locating many of them close to the binding. This is silly; it just makes matters more difficult for the reader. The catalog for Christie's April 22 London sale of contemporary art has a heavy cardboard and clumsy spiral binding, while the sans serif type printed in gray is not easily readable. The horizontal format is awkward to handle and is not compensated for by the larger reproductions. A silly waste of money. Incidentally, this sale, replete with German, French and British artists, does not comprise a single work I'd be happy to have at home.



Heartthrob DiCaprio is now the star of books too

Leonardo lunacy

Books



By Beverly Beyette

I might be said of the authors and publishers of all those books about 23-year-old *Titanic* heartthrob Leonardo DiCaprio that their ship has come in.

Several of these unauthorized biographies are anchored on bestseller lists around the world, and copies are sailing off shelves in what one London bookseller terms "Leonardo lunacy."

"It's definitely a phenomenon," says Sandra Wake, editorial director of Plexus, a small London house that in November published one of the first, and classier, tomes, *The Leonardo DiCaprio Album*. It was a case of timing is everything. "We knew there was a market for a book on Leonardo and had planned to do one when *Romeo & Juliet* came out," Wake says, but "somehow we didn't quite get it together."

What luck. With the release of *Titanic* in December, "Everything went crazy," Wake says. It seems that teen and preteen girls — the target audience for these illustrated paperbacks — are just loony

and other young stars. "Brad Pitt is very successful," she says, "but nothing has been anything like Leonardo."

She wrote the first book in about three weeks, without attempting to interview DiCaprio. "There wasn't really time. But I did talk to him a long time ago when he was on 'Growing Pains' and I was editing a teen magazine."

How does one cobble together a book in a few weeks? Mark Bego, New York-based author of *Leonardo DiCaprio: Romantic Hero*, due out next month from Andrews and McMeel, says, "I see every movie (in DiCaprio's case, that's 11), find every article, download every bit of data, and just sort of immerse myself in it, decide what the story is, what it is that sparks this interest. And then I just kind of dive in."

"The subjects will almost never cooperate," he adds. "You're better off working around them."

When Bego saw *Titanic*, he knew DiCaprio was red-hot, and he "jumped aboard." The actor, he says, has it. "I said in my book that Leo will forever be remembered for *Titanic* like Clark Gable is remembered for *Gone With the Wind*." Bego figures his buyers are girls 12-18, for whom DiCaprio has good-boy — as opposed to James Dean bad-boy — appeal. "He looks like someone you could bring home to your parents."

Just out from Archway/Pocket Books, another young readers imprint, is *Leonardo DiCaprio: A*

"It's definitely a phenomenon. Everything went crazy. We can't keep up with demand"

about Leo. "We can't keep up with demand," Wake says.

"We've got something like 50,000 back-ordered. It's crazy. It's wild." The book, by Edinburgh writer Brian J. Robb, has sold almost 280,000 copies worldwide, including 10,000 English-language editions in Japan, and Plexus is publishing Japanese, German, Brazilian, Polish, French and Scandinavian editions. It is in its third week on the *New York Times* national paperback best-seller list.

"Brad Pitt, Keanu Reeves, River Phoenix [subjects of earlier Plexus biographies], none of them have sold like this," Wake says. "*Titanic* came along and it just went wild. Girls in England and France were going to see it 10 or 11 times."

Craig Virden, publisher and president of New York-based Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers, never dreamed he'd have a best seller in *Leonardo DiCaprio: Modern-Day Romeo*, published in February 1997 and on *The New York Times* national paperback bestseller list for six weeks. Nothing like this has happened to him since 1990 when his book on the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles sold 2.5 million copies.

Virden says of DiCaprio, "We try to keep on top of media figures that adolescents and teenagers seem to be interested in. Not coincidentally, I have a 14-year-old daughter and I noticed she had three posters and 30 cutouts of this kid tacked up in her room. And we knew *Titanic* was coming out." Capitalizing on this, the publisher followed *Modern-Day Romeo* last month with *Leonardo: A Scrapbook in Words and Pictures*, No. 4 this week on the *Los Angeles Times* paperback bestseller list and on *The New York Times* national list.

"We had the idea on the fifth of January and we had books in the warehouse on the 26th," Virden says. The publisher has sold rights in 12 countries, including South Korea, China, Turkey and Bulgaria.

Both books are by New York-based Grace Caplan, who's profiled Pitt, Phoenix

Biography, by New York-based Nancy Krulik, author of bestseller *Taylor Hanson: Totally Taylor!*, a bio of the teen band's lead singer. The first printing was 185,000, and it has already gone back to press.

What is there left to say about Leonardo? Well, says Pocket Books publicist Jane Ginsberg, the Krulik book will "separate the true Leos from the Leo hangers-on. It's everything about Leo they could possibly want to know," including a guide to the multitude of Leo Web sites on the Internet.

For the most part, these books, which range in price from \$4.50 to \$15.95, repeat old-told Leo lore: How he got his name (he gave a kick just as his pregnant mother was looking at a Leonardo da Vinci painting in Italy), how he has a pet bearded lizard named Blizz, how he was once rejected for a TV commercial for having a bad haircut, how he had a Bohemian upbringing.

So what does the object of all this literary devotion think about this book blitz? DiCaprio's publicist, Cindy Guagenti, says she hasn't discussed the books with DiCaprio, who might be surprised to learn that he is 5-foot-11, as one writer notes; that he has green eyes, as another observes; and that he lives in either Los Angeles' Hollywood or Los Feliz districts, depending upon which book you read.

The truth? "He's growing," Guagenti says. "Right now, he's a little over 6 feet tall. His eyes? They're blue." His residence? She'd rather not say, "but he doesn't really live in either of those two places."

"It's insanity," she says of the proliferation of DiCaprio books, which "report" on everything from his weight to his love life. "But you can't get upset. You just kind of shrug them off. Still, there's a little part of you that gets a little annoyed."

Is an authorized DiCaprio in the works, perhaps? Definitely not, Guagenti says. "It's early, and it's just not something I could see him doing until years from now." (LA Times)

The bill for Chernobyl

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

It's 12 years ago this month that the nuclear reactor in Chernobyl went into meltdown — an unprecedented occurrence — and the toll of the accident has not yet been fully assessed.

Although the whole thing was played down by the former Soviet Union, which boasted "only 18 lives" had been lost, we now know that the damage was greater and much more far-reaching than even the worst-case scenarios predicted at the time.

Several hundred people who participated in the clean-up — a highly disorganized operation — are already dead; many more are dying. In the Ukraine and in Byelorussia thousands are suffering from latent effects of exposure to the lethal cloud. Those exposed to it as children, some of whom are now in Israel, have health problems, in

many cases serious thyroid conditions. And there are still areas in Lapland and Scotland where the soil is too radioactive for either reindeer or sheep to graze on it safely.

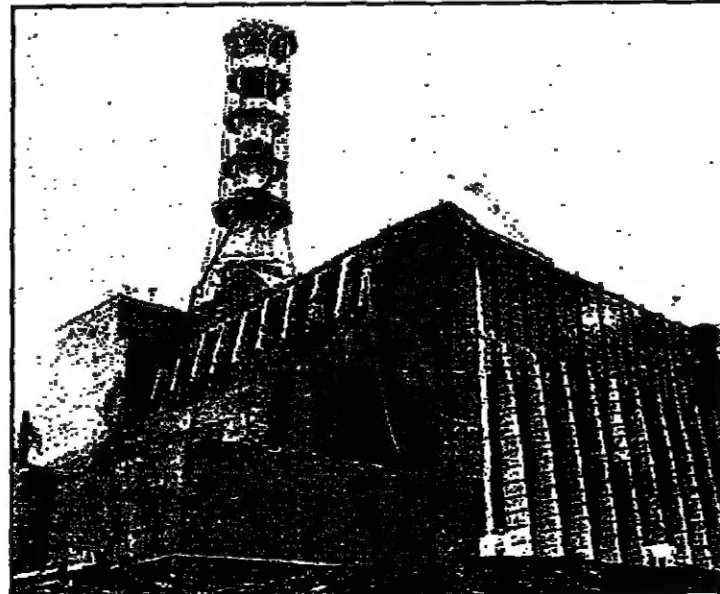
By now it's pretty well agreed that Chernobyl's nuclear reactor complex should be totally closed down. Declared a hazard by the International Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the site today poses a threat to most of Europe and, taking vagaries of wind and weather into account, perhaps to half the globe.

Even the Ukrainian government would like to decommission the remaining reactors, which they know are "accidents just waiting to happen," just as they know that the sarcophagus covering the stricken reactor that caused the Chernobyl disaster is leaking dangerous amounts of radioactivity into the surrounding area.

But decommissioning a complex of this size poses serious problems.

FIRST and foremost is the need to find a source of energy to replace the energy still being generated by these plants.

The Ukrainian government wants to complete a plan for a chain of reactors in the southern Ukraine but this, the Ukrainians



Twelve years later, the full impact of the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown is still not known. (AP)

say, will cost at least \$2.2 billion, which they must get from other (Western) countries. Those countries are leery of investing in the reactors because their experts say that building them to Western safety standards would bring the cost up to around \$3.5 billion at least.

So far, Western countries have committed themselves to just \$950 million, which they say will

just about cover the cost of decommissioning the present hazardous complex.

This would leave the Ukraine with an energy deficit it says it could not tolerate. And without an alternative energy source, the Ukrainians say, they cannot decommission the reactors they have.

Western experts, however, claim the Ukrainians could do very well

without the Chernobyl complex if they updated their industrial systems to waste less energy. They point out that, per industrial production unit, Ukraine uses more than three times as much energy as the US, and almost six times as much as Japan.

Proper end usage, these experts say, would easily cover the shortfall, making additional nuclear reactors redundant.

The feeling is that a project to update Ukrainian industry would generate loans from an industrialized world grown a little leery of nuclear-generated power, particularly reactors made and installed in the former USSR, almost all of which have been found sub-standard and, by Western standards, unsafe.

And the Ukrainians? Perhaps as a result of the many years of Soviet domination, during which nuclear power was seen as the hallmark of efficiency, the Ukrainians aren't very enthusiastic about these alternative plans. They'd rather build the reactors.

The real problem is that, no matter how unsafe their current reactors may be or what degree of risk they themselves might be willing to take, Ukraine's neighbors can do nothing to force it to dismantle the Chernobyl complex — not even when those neighbors feel the threat of the reactors hanging over them like Damocles' sword.

Local Internet family site vies for int'l award

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Over 15 percent of patented inventions on the Internet were created by Israelis, but one can't say that Israeli Internet sites are leading the pack (except for *The Jerusalem Post Internet Edition*, which has been rated among the world's top 10 on-line newspapers).

But now, a handful of people working out of the Jerusalem area on a shoestring budget of \$3,000-\$5,000 a month have produced a site that is competing as a finalist in what many refer to as the Internet "Oscars" — the Global Information Infrastructure (GII) awards.

Called the WholeFamily Center (at <http://www.wholefamily.com>), the multimedia site's team is led by a veteran clinical psychologist dedicated to promoting the enrichment of family life.

Dr. Michael Tobin, a former New Yorker who came on aliyah from New England in 1986 and has been a practicing psychologist for 25 years, says he conceived the idea while running the Tiberias marathon in January 1996.

"It came to me that the Internet could be used as a forum for helping families to cope with problems they faced every day — couples, parents and children," he said. While not practicing psychotherapy on line or spewing out lots of technical written material in magazine form, WholeFamily decided to use a different approach: It uses audio, photography and text to portray family conflicts through short dramas, followed by interactive surveys on subjects such as "The Biggest Mistake I Ever Made as a Parent," followed by psychologists' comments.

It even has an ongoing family soap opera. The company's corporate office is in Connecticut, and the site "sits" on a server in Florida.

Among the subjects dealt with are discipline, money, marital relations, in-laws, anorexia, drugs, teen suicide, parent-teen communication, extramarital affairs, step-families and peer pressure.

"This site takes the gloves off

and leaves political correctness for the rest of the world... frank, direct, truth-speak," enthused David Fennell of Pearl Software Inc., one of the GII judges who chose the finalists.

"There is a variety of parenting sites out of the more than one million sites on the Web, but we were the first and remain the only site that deals comprehensively with family problems and uses such a multimedia, dramatic approach," declares Tobin, who is president of WholeFamily Inc.

Tobin, who with his wife Deborah (also a practicing clinical psychologist) and their children lives in Efrat, co-writes much of the material with Toby Klein Greenwald, another Efrat resident who is the company's vice president for creative development.

Greenwald, formerly from Cleveland, is a journalist, teacher, script writer and photographer. Ellen Weinberger Horowitz, of Jerusalem is art director and copywriter, and Yisrael Feldman, an immigrant from Toronto, is the Internet technology consultant.

Advisers on teenagers work from Florida and Chicago, and articles by many contributors in the US are included on the site. This small team have apparently struck a chord and targeted a genuine need, especially in fractured US society, where 95% of the audience is located.

On April 20, Tobin and company will be in Chicago for the GII awards ceremony ("I'll have to rent a tuxedo, as it is a black-tie affair, and what Israeli, except for politicians and diplomats, have those?" Tobin asks). Those interested in knowing next week whether the Israeli finalist wins can go into the GII site at www.gii.com.

WholeFamily is competing in the children and parenting category against six other foreign Internet sites, including those owned or sponsored by giants like Disney, Time-Warner and Procter & Gamble. "We are little guys facing the Goliaths," Tobin jokes.

It previously was chosen by "Best of the Web" as the third-best educational site on the Internet for 1997 (National Geographic was



WholeFamily's message is universal: Promoting family values and healthy family relationships.

first), and will be featured in *Family Life Magazine's* May issue as "the site no family should be without."

The site has also won 40 other awards, including rather prestigious ones from *USA Today* and the *Readers' Digest* search engine. The first prize doesn't carry with it a fat check or even a gold-plated statuette, says Tobin, but there will be a gold medal if WholeFamily wins.

The non-political, non-sectarian site doesn't even have an Israeli flavor, as its message is universal: promoting family values and healthy family relationships.

It's not even blatantly Jewish, although the values promoted by the material are based on the Jewish ideal of faithful mates and devoted parents. "Some people have even guessed that we were a Christian site, because of the family values. One would have to be a

real Internet expert to figure out that we're based in Israel," Tobin adds.

This message — that you can be more loving and effective partners, parents and family members — has apparently struck a chord. "Look at American society: when I was growing up there, the main issues that bothered kids were chewing gum in class or maybe copying on tests," Tobin recalls.

"Today, there are drugs, violence, teenage pregnancies and even murder in schools. The pressure on teenage girls to agree to sex is tremendous. There is great peer pressure against saying 'No.' Much of our material for teenagers focuses on this problem and gives them the strength to say no."

"TV is, unfortunately, responsible for much of the decline in Western values and standards. Many of the Americans who write

in are barely grammatical in English, and their spelling is even worse. At least the Internet constitutes a cultural advancement on passive TV watching, as it requires people to type and to interact with someone at the other end."

Israelis are the second most frequent visitors to the English-language site (although way behind the US), but there are users in 96 other countries, including Malaysia, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait and Egypt. It's unlikely that any Arab or Moslem visitors noticed a Talmud volume on a shelf in one of the pictures.

If the proportion of Israeli visitors to the site increases dramatically, the time will come to produce a separate site in Hebrew, perhaps as an intranet, the psychologist notes.

"The model is relevant to any country, as it deals with universal problems that affect all cultures, but there are some unique family problems in Israel, such as army service and terror, that could be addressed."

The professional parts of the site are completely non-commercial: WholeFamily depends for income on sponsors (a major foreign company, whose identity must remain unpublished until made official, is one of them) and advertising. There is a link to a booksellers site for listings of volumes on relevant parenting and family subjects.

Psychologists, psychiatrists and other professionals, mostly in the US — where they are permitted to advertise — can be listed on the site for \$50 a year. WholeFamily is also launching a variety of products, such as greeting cards, mugs and T-shirts with its emblem and optimistic slogans like "We Can Work It Out."

Tobin says that when real-time "streaming" of video becomes technologically practical, video sequences with actors acting out roles can replace or supplement downloaded audio discourses among family members. "Then, it could even be possible for professionals to offer effective personal psychotherapy sessions to people they can see from the other end of the world."

US authorities bet against Internet gaming

By MARK FINEMAN

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua — The unadorned office in the heart of this sleepy West Indies capital appears an unlikely beachhead in a budding "cyberwar" between the US government and tiny Caribbean states struggling to defend their sovereignty and economies.

When Jay Cohen opened his World Sports Exchange 18 months ago, the 29-year-old New York-born stockbroker didn't even put up a sign. But in the past year, Cohen became the most visible proponent of a new enterprise he said was at a cutting edge of cyberspace and — he thought — beyond the reach of US law.

Cohen led dozens of US entrepreneurs to the Caribbean and Central America, where they offer an innovative service for gamblers the world over to bet on their favorite sports teams, players or even Academy Award nominees via the Internet from their own homes, even from places where gambling is illegal.

Now Cohen — and, with him, Antigua — is at the vanguard of a US Justice Department effort to shut down the multimillion-dollar trade. Last month, Cohen was in New York's US District Courthouse pleading not guilty to the first federal indictment against Internet gambling in US history.

The federal charges handed down in New York on March 4 accuse six such operations and their US owners in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Curacao and Antigua of violating a federal law written decades before anyone even envisioned an Internet. The case goes far beyond Cohen and the 13 other US citizens now charged with breaking a 30-year-old law against using the telephone to gamble across state lines.

US Attorney General Janet Reno casts it as a critical test case to prove the Internet is not an electronic sanctuary for illegal betting.



The multimillion-dollar gambling industry is legal in many places.

A different message reached Antigua and the dozen or so other cash-strapped Caribbean nations that have made millions of dollars legalizing, licensing and trying to regulate a cyber industry that they have made no attempt to hide — an industry that analysts estimate brings its operators worldwide in excess of \$200 million a year, mainly from US gamblers.

At best, officials in the Caribbean saw the indictments as a hypocritical assault on their sovereign right to compete in a multimillion-dollar gaming industry that is legal in many places and takes shape in the US. They claim that the US government's motive in the crackdown is to prevent the

millions of dollars in wagers — and potential tax revenue on winnings — from leaving its shores.

At worst, those officials said they viewed it as part of a US conspiracy against small island states, which they say were singled out in an Internet gambling industry that includes several large operations in Britain and Austria and soon in Australia, where parliament is expected to legalize the trade in the next few weeks.

US federal prosecutors and law enforcement officials deny the charge. They stressed in announcing the indictments that the Internet gaming operators in the Caribbean and Central America, unlike their European counter-

parts, use the US telephone system, which is prohibited for the purposes of betting and wagering.

But legal analysts and Internet gaming advocates say the law is far from clear. In fact, legislation specifically addressing wagering on the Internet is pending in both the US House and Senate, and critics in the Caribbean and in the US chided federal prosecutors for moving against the industry before Congress votes on those new laws.

The proposed bills were introduced after US law enforcement authorities concluded that the new technology had advanced beyond legal means to police it. They said operators could use it to defraud bettors and that organized crime easily could infiltrate it and then use the industry to launder vast sums of illegal profits from drug trafficking and other criminal enterprises.

At issue, analysts say, is the technology itself. The offshore gambling and Internet gaming boom mainly falls into two categories. Some are sports-betting operations that use the Internet or toll-free telephone numbers to take wagers from throughout the US and the world.

Others are "virtual casinos," interactive Web sites that re-create the inside of a Las Vegas-style casino, offering everything from blackjack to slot machines. They are run by computers small enough to fit into the corner of a room in a small office or villa on islands like Antigua.

Gamblers create anonymous offshore accounts by wiring funds or using their credit cards. Losses are deducted and winnings are deposited — provided the operators pay. Already, Caribbean governments have shut down several Internet gaming operations that defrauded customers by failing to pay out winnings; others were closed for operating without licenses, and still others are being probed for links to organized crime.

(Los Angeles Times)

Videoconferences kept private



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Nothing digital seems safe from outsiders' prying anymore. But researchers from the Technion in Haifa claim to be the first in the world to develop a computer program for encryption of videoconferences in real time. Produced by SVIS Protected Video Systems, the program will protect those who send banking, commercial, medical and other data via videoconference.

Nahum Brandman, the company's managing director and a former Technion physics graduate, says the system is not only highly reliable but available at low cost.

Holding videoconferences linking people in different countries, and even on different continents, is becoming increasingly popular among physicians who want to consult with each other about patients, or businesspeople who want to avoid a time-consuming and expensive trip abroad for making deals. But until now, the data transmitted over broad-band cables has not been secure, and when dealing with patients and business deals, privacy is very important.

The software is made up of highly secure encryption and decryption codes. "It's the only system in the world that can encrypt data and video pictures as they are being transferred," Brandman maintains. "And even more important, previous encryption systems required the installation of special and very expensive hardware, and those who run it need training on operations and maintenance." Brandman said the system can be installed without the need to buy other equipment. The software, which aroused

much interest at the recent CeBIT computer, electronics — and telecommunications conference in Hannover, Germany, can also be used to ensure the safety of textual, video and audio data shared by many workers through servers.

CLEANING UP WITH PLANTS

New ways to eliminate poisonous metals from industrial waste by using plants were presented at a recent Israeli-British workshop on agriculture and the environment at the Hebrew University's Agriculture Faculty in Rehovot. It was attended by five British and 10 Israeli scientists in the field, and supported by the British Council and HU.

A technique developed at the University of Sheffield is based on using plants that have the singular ability to absorb pollutants and is already being used in Europe, Australia and the US.

Dr. Hedva Shikler of the agriculture faculty in Rehovot, has been working on utilizing the system in Israel.

Perhaps that would help clean up the Yarkon, whose heavy metals and bacteria caused so much harm to victims of the Maccabiah bridge disaster last summer.

A professor from the University of Dundee in Scotland reported on the development of filters based on fungi that are attracted to metals and more effective than chemicals in removing them. Prof. Elisha Tel-Or of the Rehovot Institute's department for agricultural botany presented a bio-filter that absorbs not only poisons but also radioactive metals from sewage, polluted groundwater and nuclear reactors. After these liquids pass through the filter, they become potable water.

MULTIMEDIA FILE SYSTEM

The unique computerized hospital record system mentioned in the last *New Worlds* was developed over a period of two years by Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek

Hospital, which invested considerable amounts of money on the project. The story was reported in *New Worlds* on March 29.

The software, which produces multimedia medical records and runs on Sun computers, will be marketed by the hospital to other medical centers here and abroad that are interested in computerizing their medical records complete with text, x-ray, CT and other scans.

COOPED UP WITH TV

Children may fight over what TV program to watch, but scientists in Scotland have found that television and video images can actually soothe caged laying hens and reduce their risk of accidental death. *New Scientist* magazine reported that researchers at Scotland's Roslin Institute — where Dolly the sheep was cloned — showed hens and chicks video images for 10 minutes each day to see if it would halt their pecking at each other. In a just few days they were hooked.

The research is part of a government-funded program to find ways of reducing animal aggression and anxiety, which can carry great commercial costs.

BUGGED BY 2000 BUG

American Airlines and KLM have already informed the Airports Authority that they will not fly to any destination, including Israel, on the night of December 31, 1999 — in order to avoid any possible computer "bug" when the new millennium takes over from the old one.

David Oren, head of information and computerization at the authority, told the Knesset Science Committee's subcommittee on the "2000 Bug" that the only problem it has about software relates to the air control system. "We are due to get updates from the manufacturers in the US about this. In all other systems we ran simulations and found no problems we couldn't solve."

(Cornell University News)

200 years after Malthus: Does an overpopulation disaster lie ahead?

By ROGER SEGELKEN

ITHACA, N.Y. — Two hundred years after the essay that put "Malthusian" in the lexicon, the consequences of overpopulation are more dire than ever, warns a Cornell University anthropologist. "Since the productive capacity of the planet is finite, a disastrous Malthusian correction looms ahead," says David Price, referring to T.R. Malthus' seminal *Essay on the Principle of Population*.

This dire outcome, he insists, is a possibility that no one wants to accept as an inevitable consequence of natural forces.

On June 7, scholars around the world will be commemorating the 200th anniversary of the first publication of the essay.

Price, a research associate with Cornell's population and development program, is marking the occasion with an essay called *Of Population and False Hopes: Malthus and His Legacy* in the journal *Population and Environment*.

According to Price, Malthus' legacy is the observation that population expands to the limits imposed by means of subsistence. Malthus believed that the tendency for population to outstrip its means of subsistence is counterbalanced

by "preventive checks," such as infanticide, abortion and contraception, and by "positive checks" such as famines, plagues and wars.

In the intervening 200 years, world population has grown to about six billion from around one billion in Malthus' time — despite the many millions lost to famines, plagues and wars.

Proportionately more will be lost now that the stakes are higher, Price fears. "Almost everyone urges measures to avert the crisis, although strategies differ," Price concludes in his essay. "Whether human beings can, in fact, take such control of their destiny remains to be seen."

Price's essay examines the context in which Malthus developed his ideas and their influence on subsequent thinkers.

Price points out that Malthus was not "just a country parson," as he is sometimes portrayed, "but a man in touch with the economic and political issues of his day who spent his professional life involved with research and teaching, like modern professors."

Although Malthus did not claim to have discovered the relationship between population and means of subsistence that now bears his name, he popularized it through six editions of his essay. The Cornell anthropologist notes.

"Malthus was convinced that the growth and collapse of population are consequences of natural forces beyond human control," Price says. "This view is part of a debate between those who think humans are in charge of their destiny and those who think not. The debate was going on before the time of Malthus and has continued, unresolved, to the present day."

He also points out that Malthus thought of himself, and was thought of by others until about 50 years ago, as an economist. Many of his practical ideas have a familiar ring to modern ears.

Malthus opposed giving money to the poor (because, he thought, that would

drive up the price of food) but favored finding jobs for the needy. Malthus also argued for universal education and supported late marriage as a way of limiting the number of children a couple might have and of providing more adequately for their needs.

More recently, Price suggests, Malthus has come to be seen as a demographer. "In his own day, few censuses had been taken and little hard data were available," Malthus could only guess at the population of England," Price says, "because the government feared that a careful head count would reveal the strength of its army to its enemies."

(Cornell University News)

Chemo pellets offer hope against cancer

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Pellets of slow-release chemotherapy drugs are showing great promise for fighting brain cancer, according to neurosurgeons at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus.

Once the tumor is removed by surgery, the pellets are put in place. Because the chemotherapy drugs are so concentrated, they work efficiently to kill off remaining cancer cells, but without serious side effects, says Prof. Zvi Rappaport, head of the hospital's neurosurgery department.

Until now, doctors have avoided giving chemotherapy drugs orally or by infusion to patients with primary brain cancer, because only a small amount of the drugs actually reach the tumor due to the blood-brain barrier. Pills and infusions of these drugs also cause major side effects. Since the slow-release drugs enter the bloodstream continuously over a number of weeks, doctors believe they're more effective against tumors than conventional chemotherapy given in a short time. Radiation after removal of the tumor often fails to prevent a recurrence of brain cancer.

Although the treatment is now undergoing advanced clinical trials at Beilinson and 30 other medical centers around the world and is still considered experimental, the Petah Tikva neurosurgeons and oncologists say they have "great hopes" for it.

RELIEF FOR CHRONIC PAIN

A new technique for relieving chronic pain of the back and joints is available at Bnei Zion Hospital in Haifa. The treatment involves injections under the skin at certain points in the body with an anti-inflammatory agent that comes in the form of microcrystals with an anesthetic added. Because of its solid form, it is released slowly in the body.

Dr. Freddy Zar-Abiv, director of the orthopedic rehabilitation department, said the pain relief

lasts for two or three weeks. As victims of chronic pain suffer greatly, the technique allows them a breather to relax and undergo physiotherapy that they ordinarily wouldn't be able to endure.

Called systematic mesotherapy (because the injections are carried out in the mesotherm under the skin), the treatment is meant for patients with degenerative processes in their spinal disks and the joints on the back of their spine. It also helps those with severe joint pain in the upper and lower extremities. Because the amount of medication is very small, there are almost no side effects, and the procedure can be repeated without fear of addiction.

Zar-Abiv learned the technique in France and treats, among others, disabled veterans who suffer from chronic pain, especially in their backs.

DOCTOR ON LINE

The Internet is becoming a common tool for the doctor as the stethoscope and sphygmomanometer: three-quarters of local doctors regard the World Wide Web as an excellent tool for upgrading their knowledge, and 95% of them want to be tested using Internet sites.

According to the company behind an interactive, Hebrew-language Web site located at <http://www.iol.co.il/medic>, that's meant solely for physicians, a virtual community of on-line doctors should be established to promote updating of the latest medical information.

CLEAN GLOVES

After reports that doctors are spreading germs via their stethoscopes, a new study from the US has found that another source of infection is contaminated examination gloves.

A recent article in *The Lancet* by researchers from the Holy Cross Hospital in Taos, New Mexico, found that only 73% of doctors and other health workers who didn't know they were being watched put on disposable latex gloves without washing their hands first. Over 80% failed to change gloves between patients they examined.

After watching their behavior, the researchers tested used and unused gloves. Even gloves that hadn't been used were contaminated when their users pulled out other pairs above them with dirty hands.

Closure looms over OT school

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

If an institution of higher learning is judged by the number of applicants it turns down and the number of job offers its graduates get, then the Hadassah-Hebrew University School of Occupational Therapy is a success.

Some 700 people, mostly women, apply for admission to its bachelor's of occupational therapy program each year, and of these, 40 to 45 are accepted for the three-year program.

It is difficult to get into the master's and doctoral programs as well. Graduates are quickly employed by hospitals, health funds, companies, schools and old age homes – and there is also the opportunity to work independently.

Then why is the 50-year-old school in danger of closing by 2001?

"We're not sure what the real reason is," says Dr. Tamar Weiss, a senior lecturer who speaks on behalf of the Committee to Save the School of Occupational Therapy and the school's new director, Michal Raveh.

The Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization, which founded the school, says it wants our building, which is located on Mt. Scopus, because it needs to expand its Young Judea Program for Diaspora youth.

"But we also hear that Hadassah wants drastically to reduce its financial support for the school and demands that the Hebrew University, which is its partner, take over more of the burden."

Weiss, who studied occupational therapy at McGill University in Canada, is one of three academic staff members of the school; there are also 10 part-time lecturers. She conducts research, with help from graduate students, as well as teaching courses.

The school received recognition as an academic institution in 1978, and was allowed to offer a master's degree in 1990 and a Ph.D. in 1996.

Students pay regular university tuition, about NIS 10,000 a year. Another school for occupational therapy was established at Tel Aviv University about a decade ago and one at the University of Haifa more recently.

Occupational therapy aims to help people reach their optimal functioning, whether they were born with congenital defects, became disabled from disease as adults or are healthy people who want to prevent disability on the job.

It has increasingly become an academic subject around the



Occupational therapy cannot only rehabilitate the sick but also save employers money by keeping workers healthy.

world, and the emphasis is not only on treating physical problems, but also – through ergonomics – on preventing them.

"In factories and other businesses, ergonomics can save employers a lot of money by keeping workers healthy," Weiss explains. "In the US, occupational therapists help disabled children become 'mainstreamed' in schools for healthy children. We are 10 years behind them, but we can learn from the mistakes professionals there made."

The Jerusalem school has been equally shared by the HU and Hadassah – the university grants the degrees, but salaries are paid by Hadassah, with some of the costs covered by the Health Ministry.

"We have 10 offices, several labs and four classrooms, which comprise 2,000 square meters or about half of the Riklis building" on Mt. Scopus, says Weiss. "I suppose, if we were really pressed, the student body of 130 and the staff could manage in half that

space, even though they'd feel they're exploding at the seams."

Hadassah, she says, "apparently feels that it's been giving a free ride to the university and now wants out, and the school is not high on the Health Ministry's priority list. Now the final decision regarding the future of the school lies with the university."

There are reports that the school would be made part of the Hadassah College of Technology, which is not a university but grants some academic degrees, as

well as certificates in a variety of vocations from dental technology to computer graphics. Weiss and her colleagues in the school oppose this.

"It would mean a downgrade in status at a time when occupational therapy is more and more an academic subject and called occupational science. In the old days, many occupational therapists didn't have diplomas, and we don't want to go backwards."

She notes that teaching demands in a university-affiliated program are higher, and that making it part of the college would make it much more difficult to conduct research, as "I need graduate students to work with me."

Weiss says Hadassah president Marlene Post told the school that money was not the issue, but rather the university's willingness to share the burden of the school. "We feel very frustrated. No one is threatening the Hebrew University schools of medicine or nursing, with which Hadassah is affiliated. And they also want to open a new school of engineering."

No one from the Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization commented, and university officials were tight-lipped.

Rector Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson would only say that "Hadassah recently informed us of its intention to significantly reduce its share in financing the school, which has caused an operational deficit that demands a solution."

"Already in 1998, the university is adding NIS 250,000 beyond its relative share in financing to ensure that the school operates in a normal manner this year. The university and Hadassah are working jointly to find a suitable framework in which the School of Occupational Therapy, can function and develop. Various proposals are being examined, along with its organization, budgetary and academic aspects. All these will be taken into account before a decision is taken," Ben-Sasson said through a spokeswoman. He declined to be interviewed.

Prof. Shmuel Penchas, the director-general of the Hadassah Medical Organization – who is responsible for the two hospitals and other institutions but is not in charge of the School for Occupational Therapy – said the extra cost of running the school, beyond the money for which it's been budgeted, totals NIS 500,000 annually.

"There have been cuts in other Hadassah institutions as well. I support the continued existence of the school, but I don't agree that making it part of the Hadassah College of Technology would constitute a downgrading of the institution."

Racism can be 'bad for your health'

By JAMIE TALAM

Suffering from racism due to skin color or ethnic origin is bad for your health, claims a US psychologist who researched this subject.

Dr. Nancy Dorr of Jamestown College in North Dakota has looked beyond genes as a possible trigger for hypertension among black Americans and believes she has found a key to the medical mystery – prejudice.

Dorr has intriguing evidence to suggest that the constant frustration inherent in racism can actually increase blood pressure and put blacks at risk for heart disease and stroke.

"The notion that experiencing racism has undesirable effects on African-Americans is not a surprising one," Dorr told her colleagues at the annual meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society in Clearwater, Florida last month. "However, mounting evidence is beginning to suggest that racism may also contribute to high blood pressure" in this minority population.

Dorr's laboratory research involved 24 black males and 24 white males. She told the students that she was conducting a study on heart rate and blood pressure reactions in response to speaking and listening.

In reality, it would be a debate designed to ignite a small inferno. Half the men in the study individually faced a debater who would pose the following racist questions: Should police use more force with blacks because they are more aggressive? Are blacks innately less intelligent?

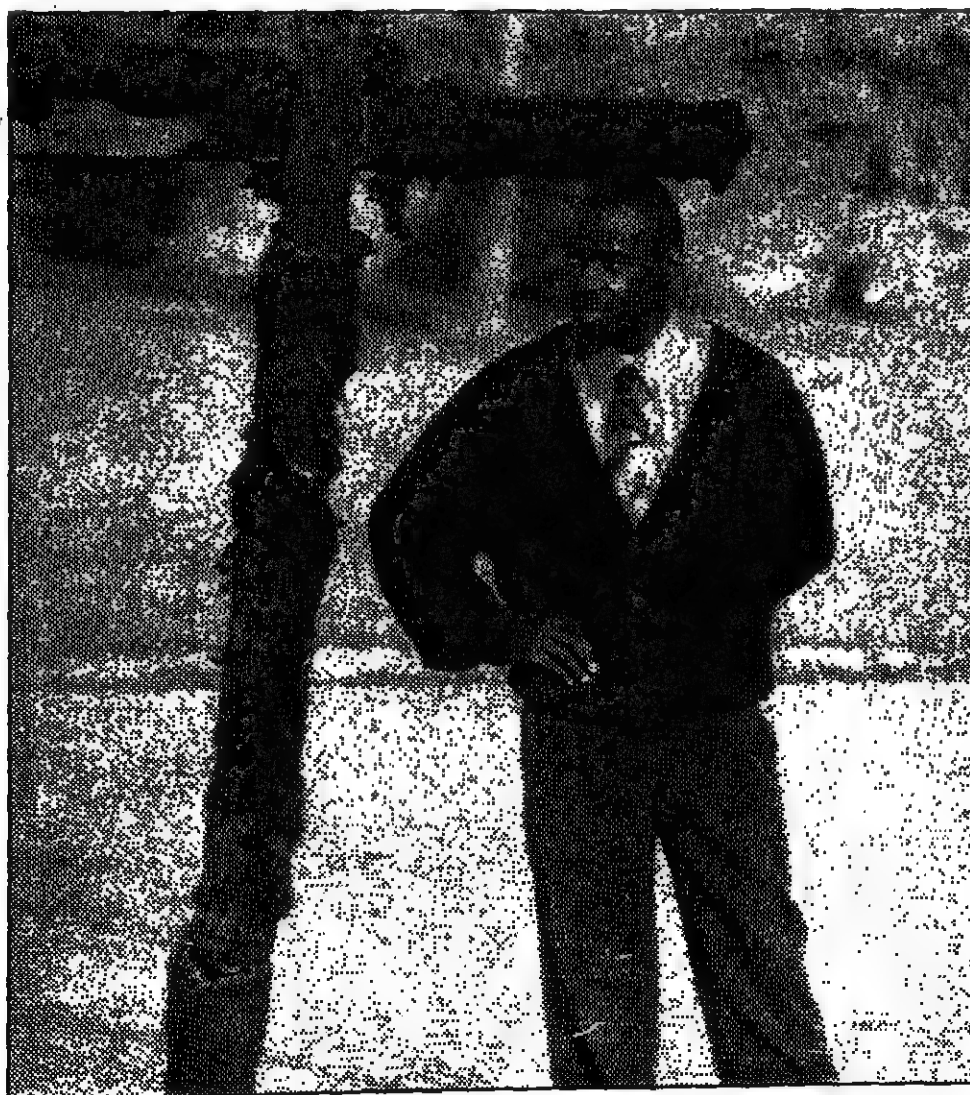
The process was repeated during another debate with a non-racist theme. Blood pressure and heart rate measurements were taken before, during and after the 15-minute debates.

After the heated discussions, half the students were given an opportunity to voice their feelings about the experience and their opponent. The others were given an exercise to write something about their best friend. The researchers were looking for differences in blood pressure between the students who were able to express their anger (those who could rate their opponent and write how they felt) and those who had to inhibit their anger by writing something about their best friend.

Dorr found that blood pressure rose more in blacks during the racial debate (up 15.60 millimeters of mercury) compared to the non-racial debate (about 10 millimeters of mercury).

The blood pressure response was even more robust in those who were not permitted to vent, Dorr said.

"The blood vessels were more constricted when they inhibited their anger, compared to those who expressed it," she said. Men who those who expressed their anger showed greater blood vessel constriction than their normal levels for at least 10 minutes after the anger-provoking debate. By comparison, men who expressed their anger against the opponent had blood vessels that almost immediately returned to normal.



Racism, the stress-inducer that may never go away: In Knoxville, Tennessee, Dennis Willis stands beside a cross ignited by vandals outside his home.

Dorr and her colleagues – Julian Thayer of the University of Missouri in Columbia and Jos Broese van Groenou of the University of Amsterdam – suspect that black Americans are more likely to find themselves in situations where racism is an issue. She added that other researchers have reported that blacks tend to inhibit their anger more often than whites, and both factors, Dorr said, could be potentially dangerous. "Inhibiting anger is a very unhealthy thing to do."

John Ruffin, associate director of minority health at the National Institute of Health, finds the study "interesting" and says it should lead to further studies into the impact racial stress may have on human health.

There are many medical conditions, including hypertension, stroke and certain cancers, that are more prevalent in minority popula-

tions. "We've got to make people pay attention," Ruffin said. "There is a huge gap between the health of minorities and non-minorities, and we just don't know why."

Ten years ago, the US federal government announced a campaign to better understand the health of minorities. Blood vessels may narrow, but that gap hasn't, Ruffin said.

Earlier this month, US President Bill Clinton said he will ask Congress to spend an additional \$400 million to study this gap. The health areas targeted include cardiovascular disease and stroke, infant mortality, diabetes, cancer, AIDS and immunizations.

Ruffin said the link between stress and hypertension has not been completely worked out. He worries that if this finding is true, "racism is one stressor that may never go away." (Newsday)

Will robot surgeons save lives on future battlefields?

By MALCOLM RITTER

BETHESDA, Maryland – It looks like a giant bionic fly that has found work as a tailor. It looms over a small table, moving its black metal arms and silver pincers quickly and silently; elbows spread wide and camera-lens eyes unblinking, it deftly sews two rubber hoses together.

About four meters away, Army Lt. Col. Christoph Kaufmann leans forward in his chair, peering down into a large black box. Below, he holds scissorlike handles at the end of two mechanical arms.

In fact, every move of his hands is mimicked instantly by the bionic fly.

It's a little like that scene in *The Wizard of Oz* when Toto pulls back the curtain to reveal the real wizard. And the reality here sounds just as fantastic: The device Kaufmann is demonstrating may one day let surgeons behind the battle lines operate on soldiers at the front.

The bionic fly is called TeSS, for Telesurgery System. The Pentagon has spent about \$3 million on its development, and now it's going to find out what TeSS can do.

Within the next few months, Kaufmann and his military colleagues at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences will start putting it to the test, operating on dummies, cadavers and anesthetized animals. And in two or three years, they'll have a better idea of how useful it could be on the battlefield.

The idea is to do surgery at the front without putting surgeons in the line of fire. Still, it's clear that TeSS won't replace standard surgical care behind the lines, said Kaufmann, a trauma surgeon who sewed up soldiers in Operation Desert Storm.

Soldiers with simple wounds will still wait to be evacuated. And if an explosion blows away half a leg, a medic will still apply a tourniquet and get the soldier to a hospital.

But on some future battlefield, a soldier whose lung has collapsed

might be hustled into an armored vehicle, where a surgeon-guided robot will slip a tube into his chest.

His buddy, whose face is so badly damaged he can't breathe, might inhale again after the robot cuts a hole in his throat.

Some future version of TeSS might help a medic put packing in a ripped-open abdomen to control bleeding, or put a large intravenous line into a soldier's groin because his arms are too badly burned for a regular IV.

It would be of much use to soldiers contaminated by unknown chemicals or biological weapons or wounded by an unexploded shell that lies like a booby trap in his body. "I think it would be more appropriate to save a surgeon and put a machine at risk," Kaufmann said.

But none of this will happen anytime soon: It could take five to 10 years, Kaufmann said. Still, TeSS is amazing, said his colleague Dr. David Burris. Even with a less advanced version, "I've operated on a pig three stories down in a parking lot. I could sew his gut together just as well as if I were standing beside it."

If you peer down into Kaufmann's black box, grab the scissorlike handles and give TeSS a test drive, you quickly start believing you're wielding those pincers yourself. It's like you're working with two pairs of tongs at a barbecue grill. You see the pincers on a TV screen, but they appear in three dimensions because of glasses you wear. The pincers respond instantly to your hand motions, and open or close when you manipulate the handles. But most startlingly, you feel what they feel. When a pincer bumps something or pulls the surgical thread taut, you sense the resistance.

The illusion is powerful. Recently, when this reporter tried his hand at operating TeSS, Kaufmann put a needle in one of the pincers and pushed it toward the robot. The reporter jumped back from the box to avoid getting jabbed. Of course, the needle was nowhere near him.

TeSS works through a computer

that monitors the operator's movements and sends commands to 28 electric motors in the robot. The robot is connected to the computer and the black box by a bundle of cables that's as thick as Kaufmann's wrist.

And that illustrates a big problem with taking a robot surgeon into the battlefield. Huge amounts of data have to be moved back and forth without delay between the robot and the human surgeon.

Cables obviously can't be used in battle, and trying to send this data torrent by present-day radio links would be like running a four-lane freeway into a two-lane bridge.

Technological tricks might overcome that, but there are other concerns: What if the enemy jams the signal during surgery? Or what if the robot malfunctions?

Burris suspects that improved training for medics might be a better investment than robot surgeons. He warns that if robot surgeons are deployed, training for medics shouldn't be slighted. When the technology breaks down, Burris said, "there's a 19-year-old medic on the ground. If he's well trained, he might be able to save the life of his buddy. If he's not well trained, he might watch his buddy die."

In any case, the first and most widespread uses for machines like TeSS may be far from battlefields. Civilian surgeons might rehearse operations with such a device, programmed to mimic particular patients, Kaufmann said.

If real operations were done through a TeSS-like device, it could be set to keep the surgeon out of dangerous territory – or it could give a surgeon the equivalent of extremely tiny hands for delicate surgery, by greatly magnifying the surgeon's view while scaling down his motions.

Already, in Europe, a few patients have been operated on with a remote-control surgery device that works through tubes inserted through small holes in the body. "Within our lifetime we'll see benefits," Kaufmann said. "This technology is not going to go away. It's too neat." (AP)

Celtics in playoff picture by thread

BOSTON (AP) — Ron Mercer sank a 15-foot jumper with 14.8 seconds left in overtime as the Boston Celtics avoided elimination from the playoff race and severely damaged Orlando's bid for a postseason spot with an 82-80 victory Friday night.

The Celtics must win their remaining five games and New Jersey must lose its last six to Boston to make the playoffs.

Hawks 99, Hornets 87
Atlanta inched closer to unseating Charlotte for the fourth seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs by rallying from an 18-point first-quarter deficit to win at home.

Timberwolves 107, 76ers 102
Sam Mitchell scored a season-high 29 points, including the go-ahead basket with 48 seconds left, and host Minnesota overcame Allen Iverson's 43 points to get their franchise-record 41st victory.

Heat 111, Raptors 105 (OT)
Tim Hardaway scored 28 points and Marty Conlon hit four free throws in the last minute of overtime as Miami handed host Toronto its franchise-record 62nd loss.

Spurs 99, SuperSonics 84
Jaren Jackson scored a career-high 31 points as San Antonio, playing without injured center David Robinson, won at home.

Jazz 126, Clippers 109
Howard Eisley scored a career-high 22 points as host Utah won without Karl Malone.

Malone was serving a one-game suspension for elbowing David Robinson on Wednesday. Malone saw his streak of 543 consecutive starts come to an end.

Rockets 97, Kings 85
Hakeem Olajuwon had 24 points, 11 rebounds and six assists as visiting Houston won its third

straight.
Suns 114, Lakers 105
Antonio McDyess had a career-high 37 points and 11 rebounds as

Phoenix won its first victory at the Forum in three years.
The loss snapped the Lakers' six-game winning streak.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Miami	54	24	.692	—
New York	42	36	.538	12
New Jersey	40	38	.513	13
Orlando	39	39	.500	15
Washington	38	39	.494	15 1/2
Boston	35	42	.455	18 1/2
Philadelphia	30	48	.385	24

Central Division

Newcastle with 36 are a jeopardy of demotion.

In Division One, Nottingham Forest beat Bradford 3-0 to its lead to six points over Sunderland.

Middlesbrough beat Bury move into fourth with 78 the same as No. 3 Charlton.

In Scotland, Hibernian Hearts 2-1.

Barnsley 2, Sheff Wed 1 Barnsley, almost clear of

Thursday's results: Detroit 102, Washington 83; Indiana 105, Atlanta 102 (OT); Cleveland 91, Chicago 85; Seattle 103, Dallas 101; Denver 103, Sacramento 103; Portland 99, L.A. Clippers 95; Houston 93, Golden State 87.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Utah	59	18	.764	—
y-San Antonio	53	25	.679	6 1/2
y-Minnesota	41	36	.532	18
y-Houston	40	38	.513	19 1/2
Dallas	19	59	.244	40 1/2
Vancouver	17	59	.224	41 1/2
Denver	10	67	.130	49

Pacific Division

tion danger, can't do w
Ashley Ward. Ward scored
65th to give Barnsley a 1-0
and Jan Age Fjortoft made
in the 72nd before
Stefanovic scored in the 86
Sheffield Wednesday.

Bolton 2, Blackburn 1
Bolton's on-loan striker
Taylor struck in the 66th-n

x-clinched division title y-clinched playoff berth

Yankees win 17-13 slugfest over A's

NEW YORK (AP) — The Oakland A's and New York Yankees opened Yankee Stadium's 75th anniversary season Friday with the highest scoring game ever in the stadium's history, a 17-13 Yankees victory that was anything but major league caliber.

Tino Martinez hit a three-run homer, drove in five runs and scored four to lead New York. The 30 combined runs eclipsed the previous high, a 17-11 win by New York over the Philadelphia Athletics on June 3, 1933.

Red Sox 9, Mariners 7
Mo Vaughn's grand slam capped a seven-run ninth inning against Seattle's shaky bullpen and the Red Sox overcame Randy Johnson's brilliant pitching for a home win.

Johnson struck out 15 and allowed just two hits in eight innings. But he had thrown 131 pitches and Seattle manager Lou

Piniella decided to lift him.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Phillies 1, Braves 0

Curt Schilling won his second matchup with Greg Maddux in a week when Mike Lieberthal singled home the only run in the bottom of the ninth inning.

In his 11th career shutout.

American League

East Division

Baltimore	7	2	.778
New York	4	4	.500
Tampa Bay	4	4	.500
Boston	4	5	.444
Toronto	3	6	.333

Central Division

Cleveland	7	1	.875
Chicago	4	4	.500
Kansas City	4	5	.444
Minnesota	4	5	.444
Detroit	3	5	.375

West Division

Texas	5	3	.625
Anaheim	5	4	.556
Seattle	3	6	.333
Oakland	2	5	.286

Schilling (2-0) pitched a two-hitter and struck out 10. He walked one.

After Maddux worked eight scoreless innings, Mike Cather (0-1) relieved to start the ninth. Gregg Jefferies and Scott Rolen walked and Lieberthal grounded a one-out single up the middle that easily scored Jefferies.

National League

East Division

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	5	3	.625	—
Atlanta	5	4	.556	1/2
New York	5	4	.556	1/2
Montreal	1	8	.111	4 1/2
Florida	1	9	.100	5

Central Division

Milwaukee	7	2	.778	1/2
St. Louis	6	3	.667	1 1/2
Houston	6	5	.545	2 1/2
Pittsburgh	5	5	.500	3
Cincinnati	4	6	.400	4

West Division

San Francisco	6	4	.600	2
Los Angeles	4	5	.444	3½
Colorado	4	7	.364	4½
Arizona	2	8	.200	6

Friday's NL results: Philadelphia 1, Atlanta 0; Chicago 13, Montreal 0; Pittsburgh 4, Florida 1; Milwaukee 5, N.Y. Mets 3; Cincinnati 10, Colorado 7; Los Angeles 1, Houston 0; San Diego 6, San Francisco 3; St. Louis 1, Thursday's NL results: Atlanta 4, Pittsburgh 3; Chicago 6, N.Y. Mets 7; San Diego 6, Cincinnati 2; Florida at Philadelphia, ppd.; rain; Montreal 6, Milwaukee 5; St. Louis 7, Colorado 5; Los Angeles 7, Arizona 2; Houston 3, San Francisco 1.

Friday's AL results: Cleveland 8, Anaheim 5, (10); N.Y. Yankees 17, Oakland 13; Boston 7, Seattle 7; Detroit 7, Baltimore 1; Kansas City 5, Minnesota 4; Chicago 3, Tampa Bay 0; Texas 4, Toronto 3; Thursday's AL results: Tampa Bay at Detroit, ppd.; rain; Texas 11, Chicago 0; Baltimore 2, Kansas City 1; Minnesota 13, Toronto 2.

Sabres rally to beat Canadiens

BUFFALO (AP) — Curtis Brown and Donald Audette scored 44 seconds apart in the third period as the Buffalo Sabres rallied for a 3-1 victory over the Montreal Canadiens in Friday's only scheduled game.

Brown's game-winning came with 4:10 remaining in the third period after the center stole the puck from Montreal defenseman Craig Rivet behind the Canadiens' net. He skated in front and beat goalie Andy Moog with a backhand shot.

Montreal had a chance to tie the game in the final minute, but Vincent Damphousse missed an open net.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-New Jersey	46	22	9	101	210	152
x-Philadelphia	40	26	11	91	228	181
Washington	36	29	12	84	206	192
N.Y. Islanders	28	39	10	66	201	215
N.Y. Rangers	23	37	18	64	188	220
Florida	24	41	12	60	188	224
Tampa Bay	17	51	9	43	145	250

Western Conference

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Dallas	45	21	11	101	225	158
x-Detroit	43	20	15	101	240	185
St. Louis	42	27	8	92	233	186
Chicago	31	34	12	74	209	215
Chicago	30	36	12	72	187	198
Toronto	27	42	9	63	187	229

Pacific Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
x-Colorado	37	25	16	90	218	195
x-Los Angeles	35	31	11	81	213	209
San Jose	33	37	8	74	201	207
Edmonton	32	37	10	74	201	214
Calgary	25	38	14	64	203	234
Vancouver	25	40	13	63	202	264
Anaheim	25	41	12	62	193	248

x - clinched playoff berth. y - clinched division title. z - clinched conference title.

x - clinched playoff berth, y - clinched division title, z - clinched conference title

Thursday's results: Boston 4, N.Y. Islanders 1; Carolina 3, Toronto 2; Ottawa 4, Pittsburgh 1; Florida 3, Philadelphia 2; Detroit 5, Phoenix 1; St. Louis 1, Chicago 2; Vancouver 4, Calgary 3; San Jose 5, Anaheim 2; Edmonton 4, Los Angeles 0.

BRITISH

Continued from Page 16

United, seeking its fifth title in six seasons, have four matches remaining with Newcastle, Crystal Palace, Leeds and Barnsley. United hurt its prospects Friday with a 1-1 draw at Liverpool despite playing with a man advantage for 50 minutes.

Arsenal, who play Blackburn tomorrow, will have matches remaining against Wimbledon,

Barnsley, Derby, Everton, Liverpool and Aston Villa.

At the bottom of the Premier League standings, Crystal Palace's loss left the side in the bottom spot with 26 points — all but assuring relegation.

Despite their victories yesterday, Barnsley and Bolton hold down the two other relegation spots with 34 points. Tottenham with 35 and

Newcastle with 36 are also in jeopardy of demotion.

In Division One, Nottingham Forest beat Bradford 3-0 to stretch its lead to six points over No. 2 Sunderland.

Middlesbrough beat Bury 4-0 to move into fourth with 78 points, the same as No. 3 Charlton.

In Scotland, Hibernian beat Hearts 2-1.

Barnsley 2, Sheff Wed 1 (0-0)

Barnsley, almost clear of relega-

tion danger, can't do without Ashley Ward. Ward scored in the 65th to give Barnsley a 1-0 lead and Jan Aage Fjortoft made it 2-0 in the 72nd before Dean Stefanovic scored in the 86th for Sheffield Wednesday.

Bolton 2, Blackburn 1 (1-0)
Bolton's on-loan striker Bob Taylor struck in the 66th-minute

for the winner, hurting Blackburn's chances of reaching Europe and giving Bolton a good chance to avoid relegation. Dean Holdsworth gave Bolton a 1-0 lead in the 20th, but Blackburn's Damien Duff equalized in the 51st.

Chelsea 2, Tottenham 0 (0-0)
Tore Andre Flo did it again to Tottenham. Flo scored the winner in the 75th at Stamford Bridge. In December, he scored three in Chelsea's 6-1 win over Spurs.

Player-manager Gianluca Vialli got the clincher in the 88th. Vialli has 18 goals this season, one more than Flo. Spurs continue to flirt with relegation.

Coventry 1, Aston Villa 2 (0-1)
Coventry's nine-game unbeaten run is over as Aston Villa kept its hopes of a place in Europe alive.

Dwight Yorke scored in the 5th and 48th for the winners and Noel Whelan got Coventry's only strike in the 59th.

Division Three

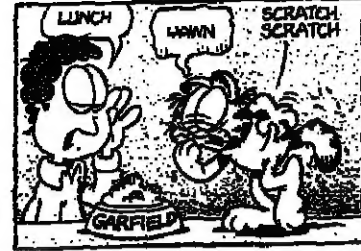
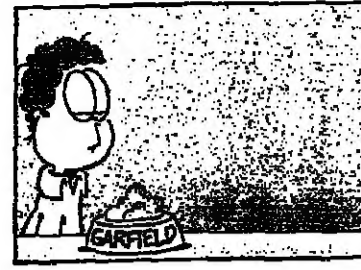
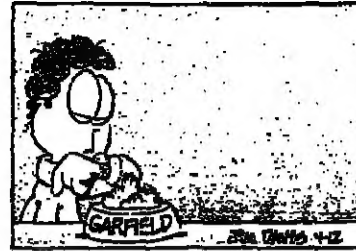
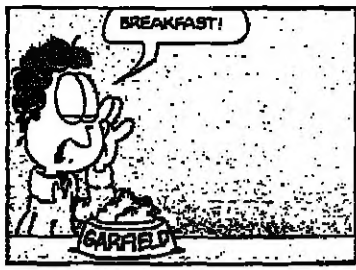
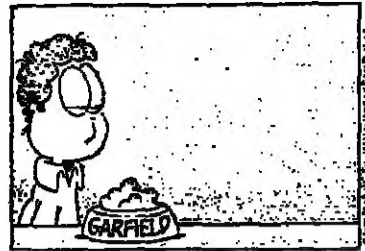
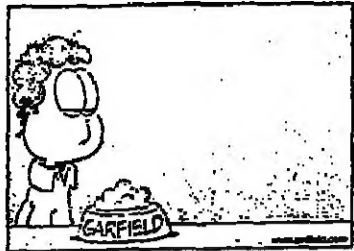
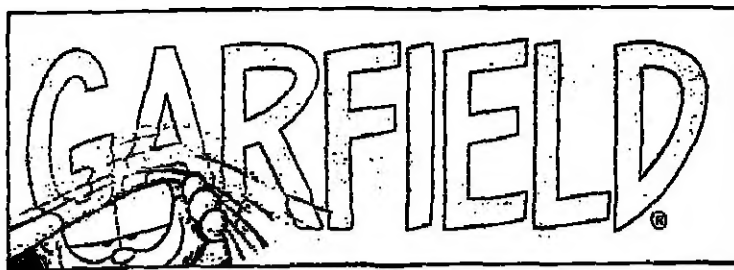
GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
p-Norwich City	26	11	5	70	38	39
Torquay	42	10	11	43	51	31
Grimsby	42	19	13	50	40	70
Barnet	42	19	12	51	55	69
Scarborough	42	19	12	65	56	68
Colchester	42	19	13	65	53	67
Lincoln City	42	17	13	50	46	64
Peterborough	42	17	12	53	49	63
Leiston	42	17	13	54	59	62
Northampton	42	14	18	58	53	60
Swindon	42	14	14	51	50	59
Exeter	42	14	15	52	64	57
Manfield	42	14	15	53	52	57
Chertsey	42	16	9	54	53	57
Cambridge Utd	42	13	12	57	52	56
Shrewsbury	42	12	16	56	57	54
Doncaster	42	11	21	56	50	53
Harrogate	42	15	6	29	49	51
Barkeley	42	13	19	53	69	49
Cardiff	42	9	22	47	46	49
Swansea	42	10	20	45	57	46
Hull	42	9	26	47	75	34
Brighton	42	6	25	33	59	33
p-Doncaster	42	4	31	29	107	19

p - promoted, r - relegated

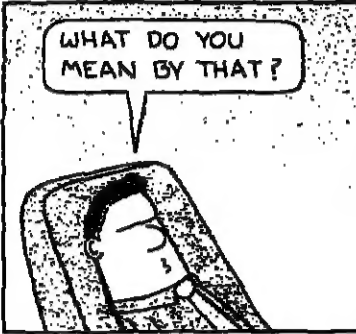
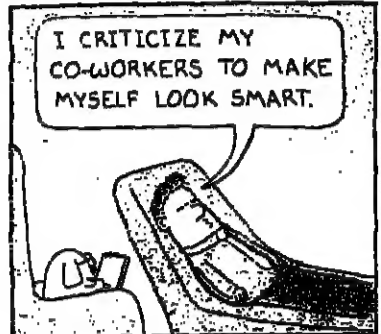
Barnet 1, Leyton Orient 2; Cambridge United 1, Peterborough 0; Cardiff 0, Colchester 2; Chertsey 1, Doncaster 1; Hull 2, Harrogate 1; Lincoln vs. Exeter (postponed); Mansfield 2, Torquay 2; Northampton 1, Grimsby 2; Northwich 4, Scarborough 1; Rotherham 1, Swans 0; Southport 1, Nantwich 0; Shrewsbury 3, Darlington 0.

Division Two

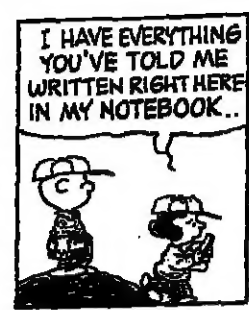
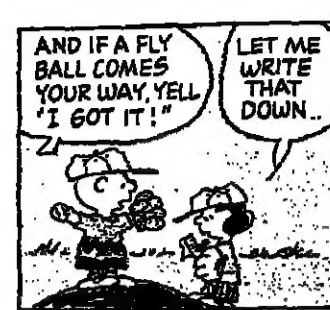
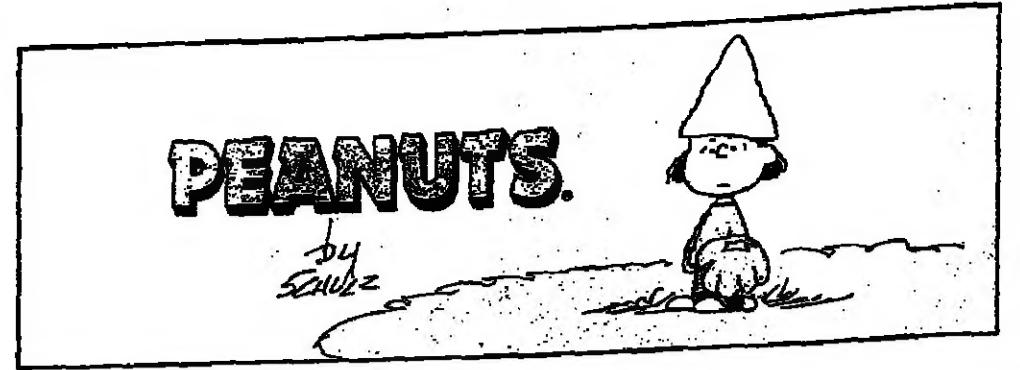
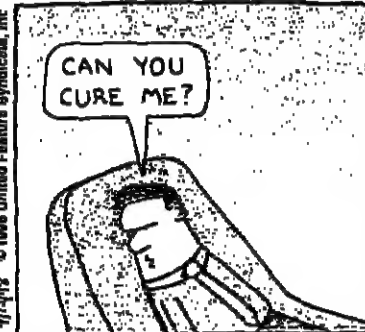
GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
p-Bristol City	42	24	9	65	34	81
Walsley	42	22	14	62	39	80
Grimsby	42	18	14	53	38	67
Fulham	42	17	14	58	47	65
Wrexham	42	17	14	50	46	64
Gillingham	42	18	14	50	46	64
Northampton	42	16	15	46	34	63
Bristol Rovers	42	17	15	64	60	60
Chesham	42	15	15	43	39	60
Blackpool	42	16	9	53	61	57
Bournemouth	42	15	12	51	48	57
Oldham	42	13	14	55	50	53
Preston	42	14	11	49	50	53
Walsall	42	14	11	46	42	52
Walsley	42	12	16	44	56	48
Widnes	42	14	10	48	51	52
Hillway	42	14	10	48	51	52
Wigan	42	14	9	48	53	51
Torquay	42	12	15	47	55	51
Luton	42	12	14	56	51	50
Plymouth	42	12	12	48	43	48
Bradford	42	10	16	46	64	46
Bury	42	11	12	48	64	45
Carlisle	42	12	18	44	62	44
Southend	42	11	8	23	45	41



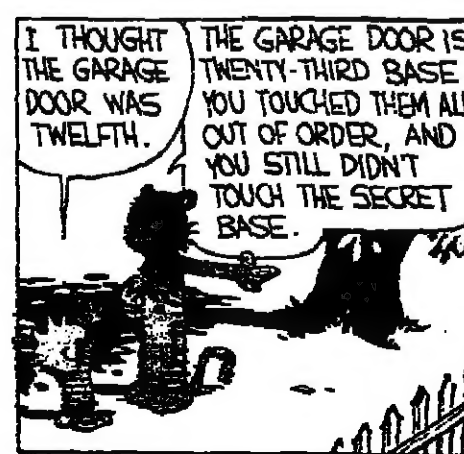
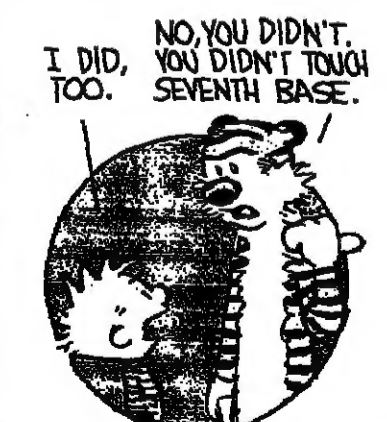
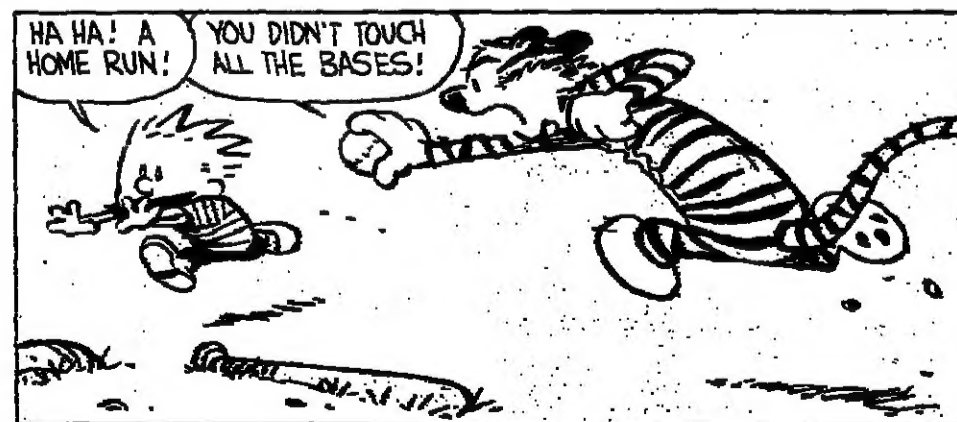
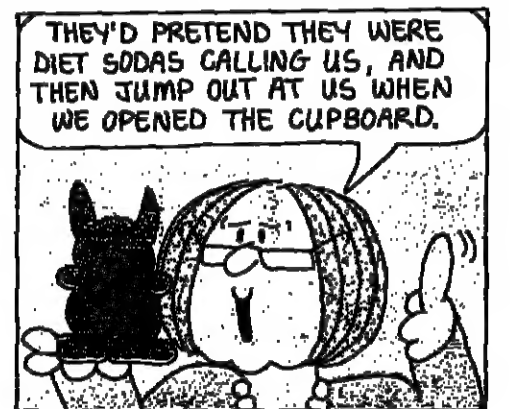
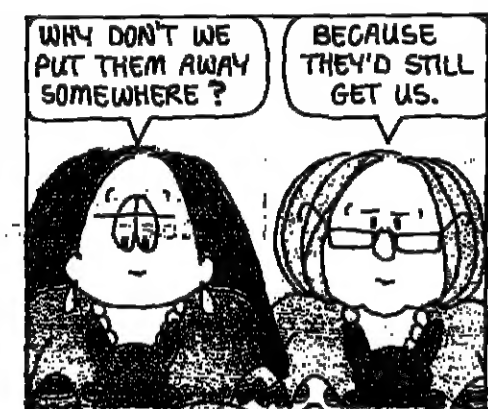
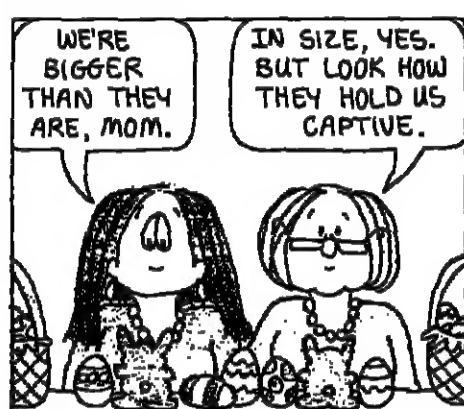
DILBERT



BY SCOTT ADAMS



CATHY



inside

Yankees win slugfest

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Arsenal cut gap at top

LONDON (AP) — Arsenal donned the role of favorites to win the Premier League yesterday, beating Newcastle 3-1 on two goals by Nicolas Anelka and another by Patrick Vieira to move the Gunners to within four points of Manchester United with three games in hand.

Newcastle seldom threatened at the Gunners' north London grounds, although the Magpies finally broke through in the 79th on Warren Barton's goal. The goal ended Arsenal's streak without yielding one at 13 hours 43 minutes. The two clubs will play again next month in the FA Cup final.

Aneke scored in the 41st and 64th — and Vieira struck in the 72nd to give Arsenal 63 points to 67 for Manchester United.

See BRITISH, Page 13

Duval, Couples tie for Masters' lead

Norman and Faldo out, Player in after second round at windswept Augusta

